

Bay Area Reporter

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395 NINTH ST., SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94103

My Place or Yours



Inspired by three live models (not pictured), chalk artist Toby Jantzen gets creative on one of the walls at My Place on Folsom St. Jan. 25.

Alioto Blasts Military HIV+ Discharge Policy

by Mary Ann Swissler

Supervisor Angela Alioto is leading the board of supervisors' response to a proposal that forces the U.S. military to discharge or retire HIV-positive servicemembers. Alioto will introduce a resolution Monday, February 5 that "urges the president to direct the Justice Department to immediately file a lawsuit challenging the mandatory discharge of HIV-positive military personnel, and also urges the Congress to repeal this amendment within the next six months." The rest of the board is expected to pass the measure unanimously.

The amendment to which Alioto refers was added to the defense authorization bill by Southern California Republican Congressman Robert Dornan. President Clinton has already announced he will sign the bill. Several groups including the National Association of People With AIDS (NAPWA), the AIDS Action Council, and the Human Rights Campaign have urged the law's immediate repeal — and many have suggested bringing a discrimination lawsuit against the government.



Angela Alioto

abilities Act," she said.

While emphasizing her disappointment in Clinton for signing the bill into law, Alioto said, "I am heartened by the fact the White House has stated its commitment to overturning Representative Dornan's amendment."

NAPWA spokesperson Troy Petenbrink commented that Congressional bipartisan support exists for repealing Dornan's amendment, but a lawsuit is still being considered. "There will be a response, and a legal response is definitely not out of the question. Other responses could be repeal of the legislation," he said, although

there may not be enough majority support to get a repeal passed.

Jean Podrasky of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN) told the B.A.R., "It's not a violation of the current 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy, because it's not necessarily gay-related. But its rationale is preposterous."

She added, "We're hoping that [gay] servicemembers whom this would effect will call us [if they are targeted]."

Podrasky said that the military's opposition to Dornan's draconian measure is not a sign that homophobia has lessened, since more gay people were kicked out of the military in 1995 than in 1994. A total of 722 were unwillingly discharged in 1995, compared to 597 in 1994. ▼

Supes' Public Hearing on Kaiser's AIDS Care Today

by Mary Ann Swissler

The largest provider of HIV/AIDS medical care in Northern California, Kaiser Permanente, will appear alongside some of its most publicly vocal critics at a public hearing today (Thursday, February 1). The hearing is scheduled for 1 p.m. at the board of supervisors' chambers on the fourth floor of the War Memorial Building, located at 401 Van Ness Avenue.

Supervisor Tom Ammianno will introduce a resolution at the meeting "reminding" Kaiser that, as the largest provider of medical care to city employees, their contract requires them to provide people with HIV/AIDS, or any other life-threatening illness, with the highest and most current standard of care.

The meeting will be convened by the Health, Public Safety, and Environment Committee, chaired by Supervisor Angela Alioto.

ACT UP/Golden Gate members Matthew Sharp and Jeff Getty told the B.A.R. they are seeking systemwide and standardized levels of care for HIV/AIDS patients at Kaiser facilities in Northern California, including approximately 6,000 HIV/AIDS patients that Kaiser handles in San Francisco alone. Even with this high caseload, HIV/AIDS is not treated with the specialty protocols that exist for other areas of medical specialties, such as obstetrics, cardiology, gynecology, intensive care, or emergency room medicine.

Getty said, "[Kaiser] won't give them so much as the minimum of specialty care

Continued on page 15

New Protease Combo Makes HIV 'Undetectable' in Some

Crixivan+3TC+AZT Works in 85% of Test Subjects

by Ed Susman, UPI

A new combination of drugs to fight AIDS has shown its ability to lower the amount of HIV to undetectable levels in up to 85 percent of the patients, a key researcher said Monday, January 29.

Combining the experimental drug Indinavir with two other drugs has proven effective at keeping the level of virus undetectable for as long as 24 weeks — as long as the study has been ongoing.

"What happens beyond 24

weeks we do not know. We've only had this trial going for 24 weeks," reported Dr. Emilio Emini, executive director of antiviral research at Merck Research Laboratories.

Emini, whose company manufactures Indinavir under the trade name of Crixivan, presented new data at the Third Conference on Retroviruses and Opportunistic Infections showing that Indinavir, a potent member of the new class of drugs called protease inhibitors, and Indinavir in combination with other drugs, reduces the virus to undetectable levels in a high per-

centage of patients.

Emini disclosed that one patient on Indinavir treatment alone had survived more than two years on the drug, and had not shown any HIV for more than 18 months.

"I don't know if this patient is an exception or a possibility of what the treatment can produce," Emini told a packed session at the conference.

He said that another combination, that of Indinavir and the approved drugs ddI and AZT, was able to reduce levels of virus to undetectable levels in 50 to 60 percent of the patients more than six months or longer.

But the best results in combination therapy was the Indinavir-AZT-3TC combination, which was given to 32 patients. With this combination, the virus became undetectable in 85 percent of these patients.

Possible toxicity

"That's a very impressive result," said Dr. Harry Hollander of the University of California, San Francisco. "However, I'm concerned about the possible long-term toxicity of the protease inhibitors." He noted that the drugs

could have an effect on normal cells within the body as well as the HIV cells.

"There can always be surprises with these drugs," Hollander told United Press International.

Emini found some toxicity with Indinavir, involving liver and kidney function, but said tapering the medication resolved the problems.

Emini said the Merck studies indicated that use of protease inhibitors has to be given at the top therapeutic dose at the beginning of treatment to forestall the ability of the virus to develop resistance.

He said that the data does not yet indicate if lowering the level of virus will translate to a healthier and longer life for HIV infected patients, but he believes that it should.

Emini said the new goal of therapy should be to "lower viral load as much as possible, preferably to undetectable levels for as long as possible in as many patients as possible."

A new drug application for approval of Crixivan is expected to be filed with the Food and Drug Administration this week, sources told UPI. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

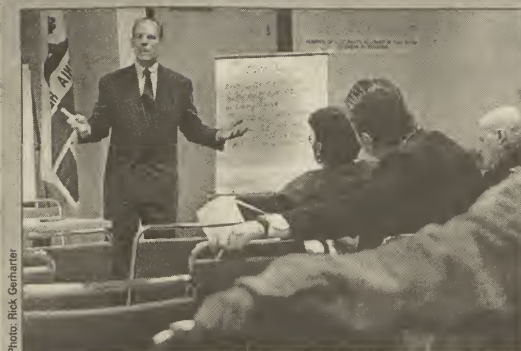


Photo: Rick Gerhner

Emotional Meeting

Rick Warren, attorney for The Motherlode, speaks to neighbors and patrons at the SFPD's Northern Station during a contentious community meeting to discuss the relocation of this popular Polk area bar across the street. Some participants angrily stalked out when they realized The Motherlode and not the Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) board had called the meeting.

Ammiano Meets With MUM About Castro Crime

by Mary Ann Swisler

Members of the group Merchants of Upper Market (MUM) met with Supervisor Tom Ammiano last Thursday, January 25 to plan a future community meeting with the new Chief of Police and the new captain at the SFPD Mission Station, to discuss the increased number of armed robberies in the Castro.

The meeting was a precursor to a campaign to increase security, according to Ammiano.

"We have to take action from within the community to work with the police department to pre-

vent new crimes," he said, "and to educate business owners, employees, and residents about how to protect themselves and make the neighborhood safer."

Ammiano's office was first contacted by Robert Aikens of MUM's newly-formed public safety committee and manager of Books, Inc. Aikens is personally aware of the Castro's crime problem: a man walked into his Market Street store on opening day, pointed a gun directly at Aikens, and demanded all the cash in the store.

"When I learned that the robbery at my store was just the most recent in a wave of thefts and

other serious crimes in the neighborhood I had to take action," Aikens said.

Ammiano told the B.A.R. that several factors are probably causing the rash of crimes in the neighborhood, including the incorrect perception that franchise outlets have more money. Their increased numbers have made them more of a target, he said - and of course the city's drug traffic and others desperate for money cannot be ruled out either.

The date and location of the future meeting on the matter has not been decided, Ammiano said. ▼

Addison Quits As CUAV Hate Crimes Coordinator

by Mary Ann Swisler

Something has changed at Community United Against Violence (CUAV). Leslie Addison, who held the Hate Violence Project Coordinator position there since June 1994, has left the post, and San Francisco resident Jennifer Rakowski, who has long been involved in CUAV hate crimes and domestic violence programs, officially took over Friday, January 19.

Addison told the Bay Area Reporter she felt she and CUAV accomplished many goals in the time she was there, including better counseling, statistical tracking, and the development of a standardized report form now used by hate crimes agencies across the nation. Over time she developed more programs, developing contacts and rapport with national organizations, and protocols for incoming crisis calls.

Still, she acknowledged, there is much more advocacy work needed in the Bay Area to overcome the wide range of hate crimes against gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgenders in particular.

The best, most targeted help, according to Addison, would come through funding her as a CUAV staff attorney. For example, she said, "If I'm someone's attorney the police can't tell me to leave the room" when they are interviewing a victim. She could also file lawsuits on behalf of clients. Unfortunately, she said,



Leslie Addison

although she holds a law degree and is able to perform the advocacy work that a lawyer could do for crime victims, neither she nor CUAV is able to fund her admission to the State Bar.

CUAV Executive Director Lester Olmstead-Rose told the B.A.R. that the group used to have access to legal services - and although that option has disappeared, the need for it has not. "In short, money has been tight," he said.

He said that CUAV is working in conjunction with Intergroup Clearinghouse, and the two groups are very close to coordinating legal services.

'Frustrating' Exploitation

Addison said that she has noticed a new and troubling trend occurring around the issue of anti-gay violence - its exploitation. "A lot of agencies use anti-queer violence to fight the religious right or something else," she said, a trend she calls "somewhat frustrating."

"I would rather have money that's targeted towards fighting anti-gay violence," she said, "if what's upsetting people is anti-gay violence."

She said that in the direct mail solicitations that find their way into CUAV's Market Street offices, "One of the blurbs that they always use is that we should fight the Christian right because of hate-motivated murder." Addison said that while she believes all of these things are connected, it's also frustrating since the funds raised don't necessarily go towards projects specifically aimed at hate-related violence.

And money is definitely what is needed, both for educational awareness programs and to help crime victims wend their way through the legal system. "If there were more money and more funding available, there is a lot that could be done," she said. "But that's not the only thing that we need to have."

"Money is useful to help change people's hearts and minds. But I don't know how much it would cost to make Jesse Helms be nice and be civilized."

As for Addison's new replacement at CUAV, Olmstead-Rose commented, "Leslie's a very calm and focused person, so she has been very good at working with clients, at being able to project concern, and again, calmness."

"She is a very clear thinker as well," he added, which comes in handy "when people are thinking through their options." ▼



Thank Godzy

The Gay Asian Pacific Alliance held its eighth anniversary banquet at the Hotel Nikko last Saturday night. Daniel Bao and Steve Lew presented the prestigious Godzy award to Alex Louie and Vince Crisostomo, and the George Choy Award of Recognition went to June Sugihara. Miss and Mr. GAPA 1995, Maxxine and Esmeraldo Esposito, helped keep the audience entertained.

Photo: Jane Philomen Cillard

Supes Okay City Hall Domestic Partner 'Weddings'

by Mary Ann Swissler

The anti-gay rhetoric making the rounds of the state's capital has gotten a dramatic response from the San Francisco city government. On Monday, January 29, the board of supervisors overwhelmingly passed a resolution allowing City Hall wedding ceremonies for couples registering as domestic partners.

For an extra \$30, the County Clerk or a deputized volunteer will perform the ceremony, just as in civil ceremonies for heterosexual couples getting married through City Hall. New York City

and Madison, Wisconsin are the only other two cities to offer this service.

Supervisor Tom Ammann's aide Mike Housh called it a "happy coincidence" that the board's motion was passed just one week after the California State Assembly Judiciary Committee passed a bill that would block recognition of same-sex marriages performed outside of California, introduced by Republican Assemblymember Pete Knight. "This idea [of providing wedding services] has been kicked around for a while," said Housh.

"It was coincidence. We were

doing this completely independently. It's a happy coincidence because it draws a contrast between San Francisco's progressive view of families and the current medieval view that seems to be [prevailing] in Sacramento."

Housh estimated that weddings could take place within a month. ▼

Gay and Lesbian Family Issues Forums Begin

by Mary Ann Swissler

Thanks to Governor Pete Wilson, adoptions by gays and lesbians remain difficult. But there are still many ways to wade through an unfriendly bureaucracy and successfully adopt a child, according to Cheryl Deaner of the San Francisco-based Alternative Family Project (AFP). A panel on adoption issues facing gay, lesbian, and bisexual couples will be conducted by AFP on Wednesday, February 7, the first of four workshops on families.

The panel will be moderated by B.J. Douglas, an adoption specialist and an adoptee. Scheduled speakers include Doug Cono of the San Francisco Department of Social Services; Lynn Fingerma, who specializes in alternative adoptions; Susan Romer, a private adoption attorney; and Alison Patrick, who recently adopted a girl.

Deaner said adoptions are as difficult as ever. "In the San Francisco Bay Area the same rules that have been hindering gay adoptions for the past 12 years are still in place. It's not that it can't be done or it shouldn't be done, but last fall

Pete actively struck down any chance of reforming the laws."

She emphasized that even people who don't have a lot of money can still pursue adoption, especially if they have a stable life and are flexible as to what type of child they will take.

AFP began two years ago as a pilot project through the counseling program at San Francisco State University, and has recently been funded by The Legacy Foundation, A Fund Of Our Own, and The San Francisco Foundation. In addition to these forums, AFP conducts low-cost family counseling, for both individuals and groups.

Three other workshops that will be presented include "Family Ties: Lesbian and Gay Parents and their Children Speak Out" on Monday, March 25, "Gender Development in Children" on April 29, and "Winning the Right to Marry" on May 29. All forums will be held at the Unitarian Center, located at 1187 Franklin Street at Geary. ▼

To register for these free workshops contact AFP at (415) 566-5683.

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Photo: Rick Genhar

Fairest of Them All

Miss ETVC 1996 Valerie Genalo greets her subjects after being crowned Jan. 27 at the 12th annual Educational TV Channel Cotillion held at the Russian Center. Genalo won out in a field of seven transgender beauties, and Bobby Bentley took the traditional coronation walk with her as Mr. ETVC.

Arson Reported at Woods River Resort

by Cliff Anchor

During the early morning hours of Thursday, January 18, an unknown intruder or intruders set fire to the Woods Resort in the Russian River area. The Guerneville Fire Department, summoned to the blaze by a newspaper delivery person who observed smoke pouring from the building, managed to confine the damage to one portion of the two-

story motel.

Julie Botelho, general manager and spokesperson for the Woods Resort, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that although the fire caused substantial damage, the gay and lesbian resort anticipated no problems in opening for business as usual this coming season.

Pointing to the roped-off area, where state fire investigators were at work, Botelho also indicated to the *B.A.R.* that although a local daily newspaper had reported fires were set in two places, a third location had subsequently been identified.

It is the second arson blaze at the resort this year.

Until the arsonist's identity is known, Guerneville/Russian River lesbians and gays can only speculate who could have set the blaze in an area where most residents support equality for gays and lesbians. "There is a wide acceptance of diversity here," said one 30-year resident, "and every-

one contributes to the general well-being of our community." However, he and others have noted there are a small but vocal group of people who appear to be openly hostile to gays and lesbians and other minorities.

Official findings into the actual source of the conflagration, and materials used by the arsonist or arsonists to create it, are not expected until the probe is concluded later this month. Other law enforcement agencies are expected to become involved as well, because the incident is regarded as a hate crime.

The Sheriff's Office has taken strong action against perpetrators of hate crimes in the past. Various community organizations, including the Sheriff's Office, Hate Crimes Commissioners, Chambers of Commerce, and the Gay and Lesbian Business Association, have conducted hearings into hate crimes and held discussions on how to combat them. ▼

Politicos Offer Dating Tips, Erotic Shows For Valentines

by Mary Ann Swissler

Starting at 8 p.m. on Wednesday, February 14, San Francisco's political animals will attempt to end apathy among the city's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in a different way.

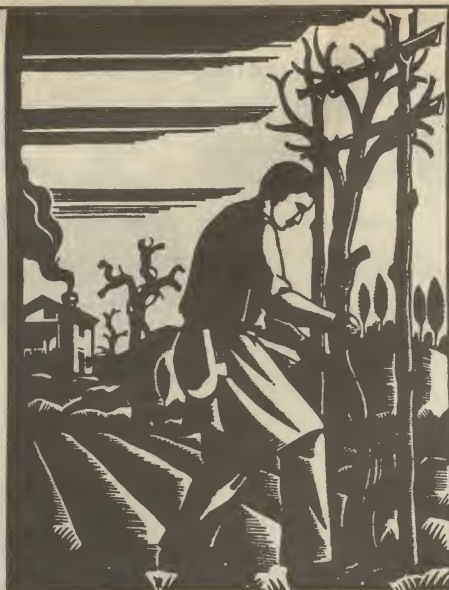
A flirting workshop, a special safe sex demonstration, and a cupid blessing by the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will all be part of a free St. Valentine's Day open house at "Queer Central." The nickname stands for serious business conducted by a collection of five political groups, including GLAAD; the International

Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; Digital Queers; and PlanetOut.

The gay and lesbian match-making service, Quality Partners, will hold the dating skills workshop for singles. The Safer Sex Sluts with Lani Ka'ahumanu will be on hand for an up close and personal, erotic Valentine's demonstration. ▼

Queer Central is located at 1360 Mission Street, Suite #200, between 9th and 10th streets in San Francisco. For more information call (415) 255-8680.

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Positive Resource's Positive Influences

An Employment Agency for HIV+ People

by Hakeem Oseni II

"People with HIV sometimes decide they want to make changes with their work lives," Mark Misrok says, and that's where his job as project coordinator for the non-profit work referral agency Positive Resource comes in.

"We are a no-fee service referring some of the best job candidates in the Bay Area to a wide range of employment situations," he told the *Bay Area Reporter*. His clients say its importance can't be overestimated.

"For a while I wasn't doing anything," Positive Resource job-seeker Bill McClaren said. "Now I have to get up and go somewhere — make it a focused day." Positive Resource has given him a means of getting back into society, he said, and prevented him from just hibernating in his room.

"It was a nice way to get myself into San Francisco and find a new career," said Florida expatriate Roy Peterson, who highly recommends the service. He is now employed by the Workgroup Systems computer company, under direct training from the owner.

"Most people benefit from the job search," Misrok added. "We are a unique HIV-specific, culturally-sensitive employment support service, and the only one in Northern California."

"Relationships between Positive Resource job-seekers and AIDS-aware employees are productive and mutually supportive," Misrok said, adding the service

had placed over 500 HIV-positive job-seekers in the last two years to both temporary and permanent career positions.

People who wish to use the service must first attend an orientation meeting held Thursdays at 11 a.m., at which job-seekers discuss their goals and are free to use the job banks and other resource tools. There is no fee, but "donations are appreciated," Misrok said.

Positive Resource also holds weekly workshops Mondays at 10 a.m., covering topics such as how to talk about one's skills; legal and

illegal pre-employment inquiries; cover letters and resumes; and the Americans With Disabilities Act, which ensures employees get reasonable time off for medical appointments.

Graphics designer Bill McClaren stumbled upon Positive Resource's booth during last year's gay pride celebration, and attended an orientation the following Thursday. He said it was less than a week after he arrived from New York that he started working. He presently works on projects for RoB of Amsterdam Gallery and International Drummer Magazine

— "which is really not my scene ... well, it wasn't!"

Aside from the money, McClaren said Positive Resource put him in touch with a lot of people and gave him something to do. "I don't focus on the fact that I'm positive. I'm living a 'normal' life." He said the supplementary income allows him to put food in his mouth, go to a show, or afford him some wine.

Frish Brandt, director and co-owner of the Fraenkel Gallery at 49 Geary Street near Union Square, has been using Positive Resource for close to half a year

now. She uses the agency for envelope stuffing, painting and carpentry, she told the *B.A.R.*, and she refers the agency to her friends.

"You're helping people to help you," she said. "The perfect example of a civilization working together: people helping people help each other." ▼

Positive Resource is located at 1675 California Street.

Watch for the employee Open House March 12th, 5-7 p.m. For further information, call (415) 928-1448.

Warriors Battle AIDS in Oakland

by Mike Salinas

Forget about Magic Johnson's return to the Los Angeles Lakers. The really big news on the AIDS and basketball front is coming from Oakland these days.

The Golden State Warriors will become the third professional sports team — and the first basketball team — to host an "Until There's A Cure Day" to benefit AIDS care, research, and education this Wednesday, February 7. The previous teams to do so were the San Francisco Giants and the San Francisco 49ers.

The Warriors will precede the game against Michael Jordan and

the Chicago Bulls with the now-traditional forming of a human red ribbon on the Oakland Coliseum's court during the singing of the national anthem. Also, before and during the game, players' wives and girlfriends will sell the distinctive "Until There's A Cure" bracelets to raise money for the Until There's A Cure Foundation, based in Menlo Park.

Additional funds will be raised through the selling of commemorative T-shirts, plus proceeds of premium ticket sales and all proceeds from a pre-game reception and sports memorabilia auction. All spectators will receive a Warriors/Until There's A Cure pin,

which includes HIV and AIDS information.

Warriors owner Christopher Cohan called the evening "an historic event," and said, "Not only can we raise desperately needed funds to fight the epidemic, but we also hope that through our position as an NBA franchise we can raise awareness about HIV and AIDS in our community."

"Our hat goes off to Chris Cohan and the Warriors," said Until There's A Cure Executive Director Stasia Obremsky. "They have stepped forward to fight this disease at a time when many others are looking the other way."

The Warriors have also announced they will bring the "Winning Against AIDS" program to the Bay Area this spring. They are the fifth team to join the program, sponsored by the NBA Players Association, which seeks to educate youth about HIV issues through an alliance of players, their wives, and healthcare educators. ▼

A limited number of tickets for the pre-game reception and auction are still available for \$20 by calling (800) 88-UNTIL.



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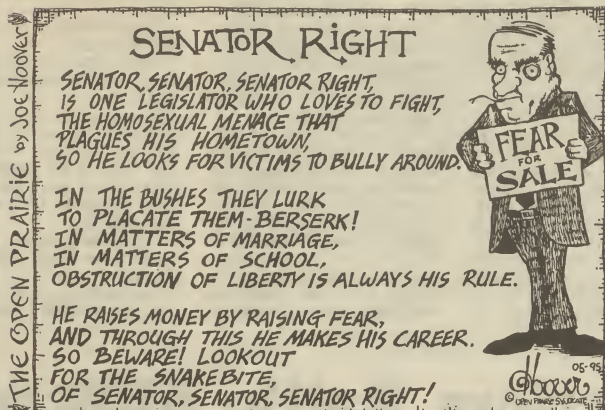
OPEN FORUM

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JOE HOOVER



EDITORIAL

Kaiser's Test Failure

There was a time not too long ago when conservatives taunted the Clinton health plan with one-liners like, "Imagine getting your healthcare from the people who run the post office." Ask a Kaiser Permanente client with AIDS if they're laughing at those words. Probably not; from what we understand the Postal Service is a lot better in its delivery record than Kaiser.

We're glad the board of supervisors is meeting with Kaiser today to discuss its obligations as a healthcare provider. Sadly, the evidence has become overwhelming that the corporate giant is derelict in many of its duties. The most obvious example is that although HIV viral load testing is obviously the best indicator for a patient's prognosis, as was reiterated Wednesday at the conference in Washington, Kaiser stubbornly refuses to pay for the procedure.

That is the most unheard of thing we've ever heard of.

If Kaiser cannot accept humanitarian appeals to start those tests immediately, its bean-counters must understand the economics. Refusing to use the best available predictor establishes a policy that is the exact opposite of preventative care: *Let us put off until tomorrow what we can learn today.*

We've always understood that preventative care saves HMOs money by reducing costly trauma visits and follow-up care; that makes sense. Kaiser's refusal to put the principal to work when dealing with HIV disease does not.

As if that's not enough, it's also self-evident that some unwitting people are now on drug regimens they do not need at their stage of illness progression. The information that would take some of Kaiser's patients off those toxic and expensive medicines could be found in viral load testing—but it can't be found at Kaiser. Instead of acknowledging that the testing is a boon, Kaiser treats it like it's snake oil. But it's the company that's selling the bad medicine.

Two more things: Kaiser also refus-

es to provide Human Growth Hormone to patients with wasting syndrome, and patients complain about its slow response to Cytomegalovirus. Once again, as with the refusal to predict and prevent with viral load testing, the healthcare behemoth is going to pay for its slow reactions... as will its patients. There will be no winners. You cannot "wait and see" with CMV retinitis.

We urge the supervisors to do all they can to urge Kaiser to catch up to the twentieth century before it's gone.

On the national front, poll-watchers — and who isn't one these days? — across the political spectrum have been excited over the election to replace Oregon's Senator Bob Packwood. Now it's over, and Democrat Ron Wyden has emerged the victor.

The GOP operatives are spinning, of course, pretending that they aren't stinging from the defeat. They say they're pleased at the loser's performance — he *did* lose by just one percentage point — but they *had* been saying it was an omen of the rest of the 1996 elections. Let's hope they're right, for once.

The very narrow margin of victory shows again that it's possible to defeat the right — as Wyden put it, to refuse to turn back the clock — but it isn't easy. Actually, it's easier than most people think: it just starts with making sure to vote.

And speaking of voting, some of the readers this week will find a confidential survey to help us know what you think of us.

If you didn't get one in this issue, that's normal, so don't worry about it. If you did, you're special and although it isn't exactly a gold ticket to Willie Wonka's, it is a chance to win a prize, and everyone who fills it out gets a cool gift. Most importantly, it will give us a clearer idea of who you are and what you want to see in your community paper.

Thanks for participating. ▼

GUEST OPINION

Sold Out by Bill

by Wayne Turner
and Steve Michael
ACT UP/Washington DC
Presidential Project

What is happening in Washington, DC when the White House is writing press releases for the gay community's supposed watchdog group, the Human Rights Campaign? Marsha Scott, the Clinton Administration's heterosexual liaison to the gay and lesbian community, circulated a memo to her "friends" outlining talking points to defend the president's decision to expel HIV-positive servicemembers from the military. Scott proposed a lobbying effort in Congress to repeal the HIV military ban after Clinton signs it into law. This strategy would provide the Administration with sufficient political cover by shifting the blame to Congress.

Scott's internal memo bears an alarming resemblance to the Human Rights Campaign's press release. DC insiders have struck a deal. The HRC is gearing up their fundraising machine to turn the HIV military ban into their latest cash cow, while spokesperson Daniel Zingale appeared on local news broadcasts exonerating Bill Clinton from this latest act of betrayal to Americans living with HIV and AIDS.

AIDS is the one issue Bill Clinton has been consistent on — consistently bad. Three years ago, Clinton restricted travel for HIV-positive people and banned immigration. The same national groups did Clinton's damage control back then, without regard for the real people the law affects. HRCF (HRC, before it abolished the F word) lavished praise on Attorney General Janet Reno for suspending the travel restrictions for people living with HIV during the Stonewall 25 events, but they never publicly criticized the president for signing the HIV ban into law. Meanwhile, visitors to the U.S. are forced to smuggle in their medications, families are torn apart, and men and women continue to be deported because they are HIV-positive.

Every time this president has faced heat on an AIDS issue, he has sold us down the river. From the firing of Surgeon General Elders to his failure to appoint a real AIDS czar, launch the promised Manhattan/Apollo project, and implement the recommendation of the National Commission on AIDS, President Clinton has been a consistent failure on AIDS.

The lives of people with AIDS have little improved under the Clinton Presidency. Events such as last year's White House AIDS conference fail to translate into real policy. The president who two months ago vowed to fight HIV-related discrimination is now signing it into law. The president who wishes there were a cure refuses to initiate an AIDS Cure Project. We're forced to spend time, energy, and resources urging the president, who once promised universal health care, not to bargain away the thirty-year-old safety-net programs of Medicare and Medicaid. It took a tremendous effort to save HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS) from Administration cuts.

Indeed, the only members of our community who have benefited under this administration have been the handful of gay appointees, whose jobs are touted as proof of Clinton's commitment. The gay political establishment is so mesmerized by their "access" that a free buffet at Al and Tipper Gore's house is announced as an historic advance for the movement.

Clearly the cocktail party, we'll defend-you-Bill no-matter-what-you-do strategy of million-dollar groups like the HRC has not yielded any tangible successes. It is unrealistic to expect any politician to deliver on commitments without constant, unrelenting pressure. Why deliver when you get praised for doing nothing? With the exception of our small, but fierce ACT UP chapter, and the National Association of People with AIDS, there are no advocates in Washington, DC willing to stand up to an Administration that is literally getting away with murder.

There are approximately 1,200 dedicated and hardworking men and women in the military whose lives are about to be destroyed, who will lose their jobs and lose their health care, simply because they are HIV positive. Their lives are expendable to this president, and the gay apologists who defend him.

That's why we are challenging Bill Clinton in New Hampshire and a handful of other primaries. People with AIDS matter. Promises made to people with AIDS matter.

This is an election year. If holding Bill Clinton's feet to the fire on his 1992 AIDS promises makes him a better president on AIDS between now and November, then it's strategy worth trying. If Clinton continues lip service and betrayal on AIDS, we should consider writing off this president. Our scant resources would be better focused on electing members of Congress with the backbone to stand up to the Bob Dornans of the world, rather than reelecting a spineless president who continually stabs us in the back. ▼

Steve Michael is running in the New Hampshire Democratic presidential primary. He can be reached at the "Steve Michael for President Campaign Committee," 25 U Street NW, Washington, DC 20001-1010, or call 202-986-0435 for more information.

LETTERS

Stormin' Norman

In the January 18 issue, the headline "Pat Norman Gets To Work" sounds like there has been a period of inactivity on the part of Pat Norman. From my experience nothing could be farther from the truth.

I met Pat Norman in the L.A. area well over 25 years ago when she was fighting an uphill battle as a lesbian mother for custody of her children. In the ensuing years I have never known of her even slowing down to rest on her many laurels. As an African-American lesbian, she has been a true credit to her race, sex, and the human race. Police Commissioner Norman is the only politician I've gotten to know on any kind of personal basis, and I trust her completely. In these days of so much sensationalism involved around politicians, the only thing I can contribute in that regard is her willingness and very active participation in attempting to make life better for all women and men. I congratulate the new Police Commissioner and commend His Honor, Da Mayor, for recognizing her many talents and contributions and giving her the opportunity to expand her leadership qualities in yet new directions for the betterment of all S.F.

One suggestion I have for Commissioner Norman is to explore the possibilities of reactivation of the liaison between graduating Police Academy cadets and the Golden Gate Business Assn. As a former member of GGBA's Community Relations Committee, I feel that communication between my fellow members and the rookies was one of the best bridges we could build toward cooperation and understanding one another.

Glenn Schmol
San Francisco

The Bear perspective

One thing this disease has taught me is that if you have something to say, there's no time like the present. Since I have to be sick, I'm grateful I live in San Francisco, but I must tell you right now in San Francisco all of our AIDS support networks are overbooked, overworked, and underfunded. These organizations rely heavily on contributions from many sources including fundraisers sponsored by local groups.

I know from my own experience producing the Mr. San Francisco Bear Contests how important it is for the success of such events to get support from our local gay publications, most of whom do an outstanding job in this regard. I would like to thank Joe Coty of the *Gay Guide*, Don Thompson of the *Bay Times* and my lover Chris who showed me how to use the Internet, all of whom helped me get the word out for the 3rd Annual Mr. SF Bear Contest held at the Lone Star on November 11th, 1995. Because of these men and others, over \$600 was raised for the Godfather Service Fund.

There is, however, an unpleasant thing I must write about, Marcus. When I tried to convey the information about the Mr. SF Bear Contest to Marcus, he had just gotten back from Palm Springs. He was very rude to me on the phone. I tried to tell Marcus I wasn't feeling well, but he didn't seem to care. He didn't have time to listen to me. The Contest was held in memory of a friend of mine who wasted away from AIDS in February of 1995. Not only did Marcus misspell his name, but he got his title wrong. Sorry Paul - you deserve better than that. Marcus also put the wrong date for the Contest in his column. I'm so grateful that there are other resources for the community to find out about events.

I know in the struggles we face sometimes it's not easy to stay focused, and sometimes we forget the good that we do. It all counts. It all has worth. I would like to thank everyone who has ever helped in, donated or sponsored a fundraiser I have hosted. Because of you, I have been able to help others, and I could not have done it alone. My first fundraiser was at the San Francisco Bear Bar on Castro on March 25th, 1988. It was a fundraiser for the AIDS Emergency Fund.

Keep the faith whatever your faith may be and believe in miracles. I know I do.

John Caldera
International Mr. Bear, 1992.

[The editor responds: We're sorry for the mistake, and hope others learn from your story, which is a perfect example of why people should write down and send (rather than try to phone in) details. Every event has a location, day, date, time, sponsoring organization/recipient organization, and participant list to get right, and every week has dozens of events.]

Watters unduly trashed

Well, I hope that Dennis Conkin and Harvey Feldman can finally feel superior to Dr. John Watters now that they have trashed him in "Watters Autopsy Confirms Morphine Overdose" (1/4/96). I wonder why they couldn't do that while John was alive? Does it have anything to do with the fact that neither one of them have done a day's work that could compare to what John Watters has done for the cause of injection drug users and AIDS and TB?

Conkin and Feldman - what chicken shits - had to wait for John to die in order to feel superior. Quit printing Conkin and get a reporter with some integrity and back bone.

Moher Downing
San Francisco

Distorted picture

Your article, "Watters Autopsy Confirms..." presents a totally distorted picture of John Watters's life and death, probably because it relies on a far from credible source - Harvey Feldman - for commentary on Watters's work and stature. John Watters was a giant. He was one of the most brilliant and compassionate men in this community. That's why he never bothered, easy as it would have been for him to do, to take out the man who chafed him in life and now slanders him in death, Harvey Feldman.

It's a sad commentary on the state of reporting in our gay/lesbian/bi community that in the *B.A.R.* article, private details about this charismatic man's life are made to appear more interesting than his larger-than-life contributions to AIDS research. Of course, no one would want to deny that Watters was sensational - in the best sense of the term. But the *B.A.R.* seems to have missed the point as to why. Unlike the *B.A.R.*, Watters's friends and colleagues have never been confused by the petty details of what the man did on his off-hours or, for that matter, when he was 22 years old. (Yes, Watters served six months for doing what most 22-year-olds did in 1970: the drug du jour.)

Despite the big deal that the local press wants to make of Watters's personal life, medical condition, youthful drug history and so on, the truth is that none of this ever had any bearing on his ground-breaking work. Petty details, however, never fail to be absorbing to petty people. And indeed, these are the details that Conkin has given Feldman column space to ponder. If Watters is to be faulted for leaving a mess, as Feldman suggests, it's nothing more significant than the confusion he left in the minds of the little people and reporters who swarmed around his dead body. If anything is left to clean up, it's the debris spewed by small minds like so much litter on the high road that Watters walked as a scientist and activist.

Despite your doom and gloom assessments of what Watters did, and what you have the audacity to think he intended to do on the night of his death, none of the idiocy printed in the *B.A.R.* does a darn thing to diminish or address the massive loss that our community has suffered because John Watters is dead. By contrast, his friends and colleagues buried Watters two months ago and are moving on with the more important activities that Watters' life inspired - and that his death makes even more urgent - which is research that matters.

Colette Patt, Ph.D.
San Francisco

A wealth of Watters resources

Re: Dennis Conkin's "Watters autopsy confirms morphine overdose," in *B.A.R.* 1-4-96

In what is the most irresponsible piece of reporting I have ever read Conkin leaves me to do more work on his reporting than he must have done, himself. I wish that I had more time to devote to Conkin's insensitivities, but I am busy carrying on the legacy of Dr. Watters's work. Here are some of the many issues:

To rely on Dr. Watters' long-standing enemy (Harvey Feldman) as the only source of information regarding his life and death is preposterous. Mr. Conkin knew both Drs. Watters and Feldman, as well as many of their co-workers and friends. He knew their tenuous relationship, which ended formally and informally EIGHT years ago, and had plenty of access to other sources of information.

The article which is written under the headline of "Community News" focuses on all of Conkin and Feldman's negative perceptions of Dr. Watters. Dr. Watters did more for the communities in the Bay Area than can be enumerated in a newspaper article. Talk to the people on the streets and ask them about HIV, drugs and sex. They all have a wealth of resources and information as a result of Dr. Watters' relentless education, HIV testing programs, and policy-setting research. If you ask them where they got their information from, they will answer "the Urban Health Study" as the response 9 times out of 10. None of this is talked about in Conkin's article, and Conkin, a former outreach worker, knows this better than most people.

Regarding the statements spoken by Harvey Feldman (and published by Conkin and *B.A.R.*), they once again illuminate why he has not done any service to anyone since he worked with Dr. Watters eight years ago. To speak badly about a dead person is insensitive enough. But to quip that "it's important to look not only at how people live, but how they die ... the way they die is descriptive of the way they live" is devastatingly callous in a community so affected by HIV and AIDS. It makes me wonder about Feldman's views of people who die of HIV and AIDS.

The article will do no service to those who did not know John Watters, and only serves to anger those who did know him. I am disappointed that we are left with the Conkins and Feldmans on this earth, while the Watters bow out early.

Alex H. Kral
San Francisco

[Editor's note: The intent, believe it or not, was never to defame John Watters.]

This controversy, including Dr. Feldman's version of events, continues on the following letters page.]

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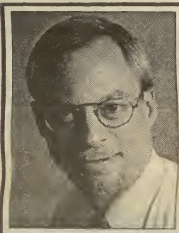
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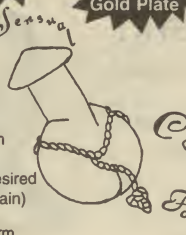
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LETTERS

Watters' works live on

Re: "Watters autopsy confirms morphine overdose," 1/4/96.

I am appalled. To solicit the opinion of Harvey Feldman regarding the life and death of John Watters is like asking Robert Dornan to comment on the death of Randy Shilts, or Jesse Helms to contemplate the life of Bobby Campbell. Watters and Feldman were, in short, enemies. They had not worked together since 1987, when Feldman's territoriality drove Watters out of the MidCity Consortium. (Feldman's oversized ego, incidentally, culminated in the loss of federal funding to the MidCity Outreach program in 1990 and its subsequent dissolution.) Since that time, all Feldman could know of John Watters is what it felt like to be left behind, stinging in the shower of sparks left by Watters' meteoric rise in AIDS research and service.

Feldman is in no position to know whether John "left a big mess for others to clean up." Furthermore, having worked for both men, I would much rather shovel Watters' shit than be associated with Feldman's finest work - all of which was conducted in the pursuit of self-aggrandizement. Others share my feeling.

Conkin - a former employee of Feldman - could at least have had the journalistic integrity to seek some balance in his article, by including the thoughts of John's admirers as well as his detractors. Instead, Conkin simply infers that Watters' friends are in collective denial about the cause of his death. Watters' friends and colleagues knew, loved, admired, and accepted him for what he was: bold, brave, mercurial, wild, brilliant. The fact of his death is far more momentous than its cause. Watters' work will continue to have impact long after the Conkin's vile report - and Feldman's mean-spirited attacks on a dead man - have faded away.

Jennifer Lorvick
UC San Francisco

And a word from Feldman...

I am responding to letters critical of the Dennis Conkin's January 4 article, "Watters Autopsy Confirms Morphine Overdose." Conkin reported a corrected version of John Watters' death, who, it was reported earlier, had died of a heart attack rather than from a massive overdose of both prescribed and street drugs.

Watters, it was noted, was a widely known and respected drug researcher whose major contributions were as an independent evaluator of two groundbreaking HIV/AIDS projects - the YES/MidCity Consortium to Combat AIDS, which established in 1985 the first street-based outreach program to address the rising HIV epidemic among injection drug users and the needle exchange program. YES/MidCity was universally credited for being the first "clean needle" campaign in the United States and proved to be highly successful in dramatically slowing the epidemic among injection drug users. In the early days of YES/MidCity, there was considerable opposition to a needle exchange program with the result that the creators of the YES/MidCity introduced the use of bleach as a disinfecting agent. And YES/MidCity literally invented the one-ounce bottle of bleach, which is now a key component in the standard international approach of managing the HIV/AIDS epidemic among injection drug users.

The early leadership for the development of the program clearly rested with the YES Project, which closed its offices in 1990 when financing for national demonstration projects from the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) in some 26 cities ended. I was privileged to be the Project Director of the YES/MidCity program from 1985 until the middle of 1990, when health problems caused me to step down as director. During that time, I worked closely with Drs. Patrick Biernacki and John Newmeyer and Watters in both developing the street strategy and the evaluation of it, and in politically defending the project at a time when the program was considered both creative and controversial. The basic model for the deployment of Community Health Outreach Workers (CHOWs) was clearly the work of Feldman and Biernacki, who were Co-Principal Investigators of the NIDA grant (grant number RO1 DA04899) that financed the development of the strategy and the creation of the model. The model itself is described in a manual entitled *Hitting the Streets*. This model became the official strategy for the State of California and dozens of other street-based projects in the United States.

From 1985 to 1989, I worked closely with Watters during this developmental period in helping him gain access to out-of-treatment injection drug users so that he might interview them and acquire blood samples. His research was widely acclaimed because it documented how the YES/MidCity project stabilized the HIV/AIDS epidemic in San Francisco, which differed dramatically with the progression of the epidemic in other cities throughout the world (e.g. New York, Milan, Seville, Edinburgh, and other locales) where the epidemic among injection drug users doubled every six months.

I offer this lengthy project history as background for my comments which were quoted by Mr. Conkin in his article and which apparently have caused great consternation among some of Watters' current defenders. I was appreciative of his work, which com-

plemented and confirmed the effectiveness of our street-based approach. Anyone who worked closely with Watters recognized, as I did, how his troubled and mercurial nature complicated work situations. His defenders are quite correct in stating that our "falling out" disrupted the successful work of YES/MidCity. Their views, however, on other matters are grossly inaccurate, perplexing, and unnecessarily defensive.

I should mention as well that my professional association with Dennis Conkin predated the YES/MidCity project. It began when he was a reporter with the *Tenderloin Times* when he provided needed exposure of the recommendations the YES Project was making to the San Francisco Department of Public Health regarding its annual drug plan. Because of his knowledge of the Tenderloin, he was recruited to become one of the first CHOWs hired and trained to function as Health Educators in that neighborhood, which had the largest concentration of needle users in the city. Mr. Conkin was employed by the Haight-Ashbury Free Medical Clinic, a member agency of MidCity, and was trained and supervised under the YES/MidCity model.

I also have had work experience with Rose May Dance, who worked part-time for YES as a clerk/typist prior to the creation of the YES/MidCity project and then subsequently worked for the Urban Health Study, a research project that Watters created as an alternative to YES, as an interviewer. She claimed in her letter that she was disturbed by my comments that Watters left "a mess for others to clean up" and then further states that she "cleaned up" after both Feldman and Watters. This comment gives her far more importance and responsibility than her role as clerk/typist required, at least at YES. I am unaware of any mess at YES she may have cleaned up. Had I known of her custodial skills, I would gladly have assigned her those tasks. She errs significantly on at least one other point.

She fails to note that I was actually quoting Jennifer Lorvick, Watters' own Administrative Assistant, who made the statement at Watters' memorial service that "His death, as in life, left a mess for others to clean up." I thought it was an accurate observation of Watters' manner of work, certainly one I also had noted. As I remember, when Ms. Lorvick made the observation, it was greeted with smiles and agreement by those who knew Watters. Somehow, when I use exactly the same wording, it takes on a "disturbing" connotation.

Ms. Dance notes that when the YES/MidCity project concluded in 1990, that "Feldman was finished." She goes on to say that the work of her program will continue "testing ... counseling injection drug users (IDUs) for HIV ... assessing their risk for contracting and spreading HIV, and working with IDUs to reduce harm to themselves, their family and their community." If the Urban Health Study actually performs those tasks, then it appears to be following fairly closely the Feldman-Biernacki model Ms. Dance was once privileged to type. To that degree, the Urban Health Study is living proof that neither Feldman nor Biernacki are, as she claimed, "finished."

"The way people die is descriptive of the way they live" is a rather broad generalization that apparently had a greater sting than it merits. Had Watters died less dramatically in a less shocking fashion, those same critics would have seen it not as "hateful," "hurtful," or "ugly" but somewhat the reverse. Unfortunately, the facts of the event were themselves ugly. Watters' defenders may be distressed about giving these facts such emphasis, but coming to grips with them is far more honest than their apparent attempt to influence a reputable reporter like Dennis Conkin to shade the truth and report that Watters died of a heart attack.

I am moderately disturbed to read that Ms. Marcus in her letter referred to me as John Watters' "worst enemy." Her intent, I believe, was to discredit my observations of him over the five-year period we worked together. It reveals, however, that I was one of several enemies and that it was apparently the practice at the Urban Health Study to maintain a list of them. Perhaps this makes up for the fact that I failed to make the one Richard Nixon compiled.

All the writers are currently employees of a funded research project that is responsible for collecting accurate information about a serious health emergency like HIV/AIDS. If their management of the facts about Watters' death is indicative of their scientific integrity, then their methodology ought to be questioned and questioned seriously. The public has a right to expect that persons trained in the scientific method will fulfill their responsibilities with a respect for truth and honesty. They become suspect when they attempt to alter documented facts to match their bias. I can understand friends being worried about the effects of an "ugly" death on survivors and family members. But any attempt to suppress truth is especially reprehensible when it occurs among people who claim to work on a project of scientific importance. Such a breach of trust casts doubt on all other aspects of their activities. And when dealing with a health problem of the magnitude of HIV/AIDS, such behavior is simply unacceptable.

Harvey W. Feldman, Ph.D.
Medical Sociologist
San Francisco



Island honors: Tara Kelly (left), president of the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, presents an award to various Out on the Island members at a Jan. 28 reception at the Rockridge Women's Center in Oakland.

Come November

In the world of politics, ten months can be a lifetime (just ask George Bush) but in this, the first week of February, Bill Clinton and the Democrats are smiling broadly. The president's State of the Union speech last week had even the most hardened anti-Clinton Republicans shaking their collective heads and privately complimenting his smooth delivery of reasonable-sounding themes like "the era of big government is gone."

Indeed, Clinton's speech left many Republicans reaching to come up with a plan that would help their party reclaim its long-time role as champion of a balanced budget and develop other headline-hunting initiatives before the November election. His conciliatory tone during the nationally televised address (referring at one point to Bob Dole's "distinguished" military service) brought mostly positive day-after reactions from editorial writers across the country.

However, many of these same papers noted the negative, hard-hitting, highly political GOP rebuttal presented by Dole. He clearly saw the rebuttal as a chance to advance his own candidacy, but to most observers — including some very high-profile Republicans — the Kansas senator came off as uncomfortable and untelegenic.

Obviously, his uninspiring response gave fodder to his GOP presidential rivals. Senator Phil Gramm stated simply that "Bob Dole cannot and will not beat Bill Clinton." Pat Buchanan opined, "Our starting pitcher got shelved last night, and we better bring up some new kid from the minors."

One Republican leader who will have a lot of clout at the San Diego convention told NBC, "Once again, we saw the 'dismal Dole' we know from too many past campaigns. He looked old and stiff," adding that many GOP delegates will think that at 72, "Bob is too old and too much of a Washington insider to beat Clinton."

With the overnight polls showing him hitting a near homer and thousands of congratulatory telegrams and phone calls pouring into the White House, the president, on the other hand, got a welcome boost. He was riding a political high as he left on stops taking him from Kentucky to Nevada.

In short, Clinton's speech (one that, frankly, any number of moderate Republicans might have written) put the Democratic presidential campaign on the high road and left the Republicans scrambling to regain momentum. Yes, it is a long time from February until

December, but having the senate majority leader as his Republican opponent (with Ross Perot thrown in to really screw things up) appears to be nothing but good news for the man from Hope.

Politics and poker

And just who is Steve Forbes? As the millionaire publisher, truly a Beltway Outsider, gains momentum in the GOP race, his actual positions become more and more a puzzle.

Apparently, Forbes is on record as opposing a constitutional amendment banning abortion, though he'd ban abortion in late-term pregnancies. He's against forced school prayer, and while agreeing that gays should not serve in the military (his supporters claim he is on both sides of this issue, however), he has said very little about gay rights.

Commentary

Rather alarmingly, it was announced this week that some of his staffers are former aides and staffers to none other than Jesse Helms. Say what? Maybe some gay and lesbian Republican activists had better take another look at this guy.

Will California vote in November for Prop. 198, the so-called "open primary" plan? California's present "closed" election law prevents voters from voting for candidates from parties other than theirs. With more than 1.5-million "independent" voters in the state who are thereby denied voting in a partisan primary, I'd give Prop. 198 a pretty good chance of passing.

Prop. 198 would give voters the opportunity to choose among the candidates of all the parties, and each party's top vote-getter would become that party's nominee for the election. Opponents warn this plan invites serious "political mischief," such as purposely voting for the weaker candidate of the other party in the primary to help your own candidate later on. In any case, watch this "vote on voting" proposition to become a hot issue as the March 26 primary nears.

The White House has called, flowers by the truckload have arrived, and Northern California has a new national sports celebrity. San Jose skater Rudy Galindo, the 26-year-old men's U.S. Figure Skating Champion, is still enjoying the limelight. Galindo, who lost a brother to AIDS in 1993, admits to being gay, but wisely will not discuss his sex life beyond that. Though interviewers always

ask about it, Galindo repeatedly answers: "No comment. What a person does behind closed doors has nothing to do with skating."

Galindo knows that discussing his sexuality with the media would certainly cause controversy, something that could cost him many fans and valuable endorsements. Rudy Galindo is not only a great skater, but a smart man as well. Knock 'em dead in the World Figure Skating Championships next month, Rudy, then on to the Olympics!

From Wallace to Barkley: In the latest issue of John Kennedy's *George*, NBA star Charles Barkley says that he plans to run for governor in his home state of Alabama after his basketball career is *finito*... as a Republican. Barkley reveals that "there are things about the Democratic Party that drive me crazy, particularly their social programs designed to keep you poor your whole life."

The fundies took it to every court in the state, but Alabama Attorney General Jeff Sessions said this week that he can't stop a February 16-17 conference for gays, lesbians, and bisexuals scheduled for the University of Alabama's Tuscaloosa campus.

Belated congratulations are in order for former SF Police Captain Melinda Pengel. Her recent appointment by Police Chief Fred Lau to the position of commander has received nothing but plaudits. As a police commissioner, I got to know Commander Pengel, and she is one bright, dedicated officer, besides being the only woman, not to mention open lesbian, ever appointed to that post in the SF Police Department. They don't come any better than Pengel, who prefers not to be defined by either her gender or sexual orientation, saying, "It's not just women. It's not just gays or lesbians. I represent many different aspects of the community, but my responsibility is to all the people of San Francisco." Kudos, Melinda.

I can't remember where I heard this one, but it deserves repeating: "All week Buchanan has attacked Dole, Dole attacked Forbes, and Forbes attacked Gramm; the GOP is headed for a shambles. Indeed, this may be the first time in history the elephants have to clean up after the clowns."

Okay, so it might be a tad cliché, but my Quote of the Week is from the aforementioned Rudy Galindo, the newly crowned men's U.S. figure skating champion and a role model for gay youth (and all youth) everywhere: "Stick with your dreams, no matter what. I did and look at me." ▼



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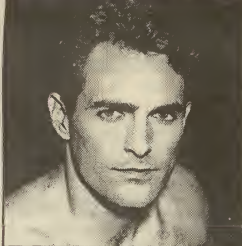
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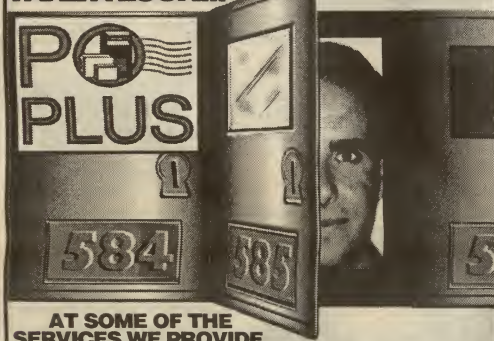
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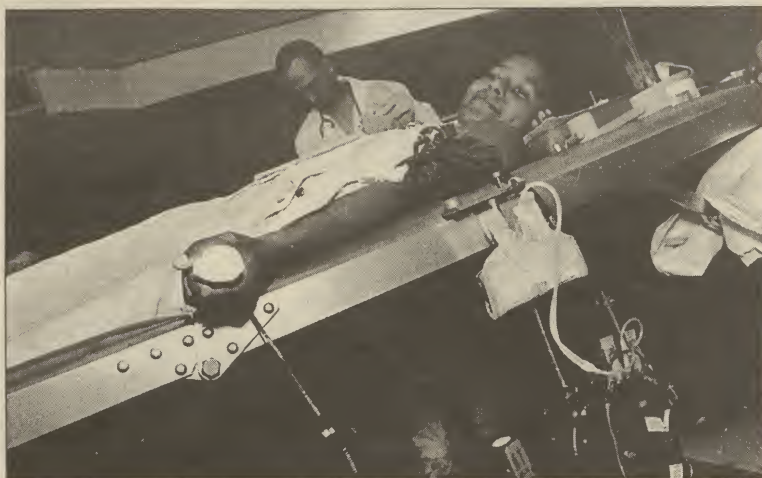


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Yo Blood

by Beth Elliott

I believe in giving blood. I believed in giving blood even before going through a pint a day for the better part of a month once, while lying in a hospital bed hoping a vein and surrounding tissue would heal enough to stop blowing open. For a while, after I got healthy and was cleared by my physician, I donated blood regularly, thankful all that A+ had been there when I needed it.

Commentary

Eventually, I fell out of the habit of giving blood quarterly. By the time I got inspired to donate again, I found myself ineligible to do so. Having had "sexual contact with males who have sexual contact with other males" — to wit, two bisexual men, one of whom was still on the verge of exploring the nasty with other men — I was considered unsuitable despite a negative HIV test.

I did get into the habit of asking, whenever I had blood work done as part of a physical, that an HIV test be included. I kept racking up negatives, but gave up on trying to donate after the second time I was told I was in an ineligible

category. I couldn't even give blood for a lover undergoing surgery, which really fried me.

But the other week, after getting an e-mail about a professional association blood drive at Th' Day Job, I decided this was ridiculous. It had been 12, 13 years — back to the days of "gay cancer" — and enough negative tests since that pre-guideline bi-boy schtupping. I made an appointment and prepared to make a case for being eligible to donate — or at least to give and have the blood stored until the blood bank could do its own HIV test.

Unexpected hurdle

As fate would have it, the only difficulty with the sexual history component was the intake tech having to look through a binder for assurance that I was indeed out of the proverbial woods. I hadn't expected the other, related hurdle: the question of whether I'd had my ears pierced within the past six months.

Actually, I had. Three months previously, I'd had a steel ring with an amethyst bead put through my tragus (the little cartilage thingie in the middle of the ear). I explained very thoroughly that I had seen a brand new sterile needle removed from its packaging by freshly gloved hands and then properly disposed of afterward. Once I'd convinced the tech that I knew what constituted safe piercing and had been able to satisfy myself that that was what I had undergone, we were in business. My hemoglobin was a little shaky, but within the acceptable range.

The only unpleasant part of the process (with the exception of the first needle not getting a draw) was having to suppress my propensity for flip remarks. Not only is this thoroughly ingrained, but I've had enough experience as a patient in critical and intensive care units — major surgery, post-surgical hemorrhage, breaking ribs and puncturing a lung in a hiking accident — to at least be familiar with the drill and comment thereupon.

This day, I didn't want attitude or remarks to suggest I was at a cavalier about keeping the blood supply HIV-free. It was probably enough that experience has made me blasé about blood sampling ("Hi, wake up, we need some blood from you, thanks, here's a pill, go back to sleep").

And so, I didn't assure the intake tech that my tragus piercing had been done by professionally trained perverts. I kept any curiosity in check as to the gauge of the needle used for the draw. I re-

frained from enthusiastic remarks about one pint of Grade AA lesbian blood coming right up. I made sure not to appear too familiar with pumping up the veins. I let slip no "Thank you, Ma'am" when the needle went in or out. All I allowed myself was an Anamniacal "Hello, Nurse!"

Threatening situations

Of course, if this gets me over the hump as an acceptable donor, I'll no doubt relax into standard operating procedure: doing as much to make the techs and nurses at ease as they do to make me at ease (the usual droll running commentary) and giving not a care as to whether my lesbianism is noticed or not. While lying on the couch, I thought of how some people feel threatened by situations in which it might be appropriate to at least tone down the camp humor.

My sedate demeanor was situational: I wanted to project responsibility to bolster my presentation of myself as a safe donor. But some people routinely frame interactions such as this in a gay pride/assimilation dichotomy instead of focusing on what is appropriate civil behavior that sets others at ease in general. I use the reverse of don't ask, don't tell: don't closet, don't flaunt. And I have a secret to share: no matter what you might think, straight people can be just as worried about being accepted by us as we can be of interacting with them without homophobic disapproval. It all comes down to, "Is this stranger going to think I'm OK?" Very often, all it takes to be OK is manners and courtesy.

One of my first flashes of recognition as to the difference between wearing gay signifiers and making awareness of one's orientation unmistakable to bystanders came when I wondered what the heterosexual equivalents would be of making gay statements 24/7 and filling every conversation with sexual references. It occurred to me that the former would be Christian proselytizing and the latter overuse of Playboy bunny logos and finding innuendo everywhere (nudge nudge, wink wink).

In other words, visibility is one thing, but constant rah-rah suggests insecurity. Perhaps it's a combination of class values and having been out so long, but personally, I would find making a point of being recognizably queer everywhere awfully tiring.

Knock yourselves out if you like. But a lot of you have still missed me on the gaydar — even when I'm cruising you. ▼

Where To Get Virgin Escorts in Europe

by Mike Salinas

It is the rare multinational corporation that considers gay and lesbian customers enough to search them out, but one company that does go that extra mile is Virgin Atlantic Airways. It is the first in its field to initiate tours of England, France, and the Netherlands specifically for gay men and lesbians.

Virgin Atlantic started earnestly soliciting gay travelers last year with the introduction of its "Out for Fun" vacations. Those holidays were "unconstructed," providing transportation and lodging and lagniappes like the *Detour's* London gay guide, but little else. They were found to be not exactly perfect for all customers; in the slightly circuitous words of William King, a Virgin veep, "In discussions with our gay customers the one request we had was the option for more defined group activities."

OUT for business

The company has responded to those requests with new tours that will be less flexible, and will be "escorted" by well-known members of the gay and lesbian communities.

The first of those, which will depart from San Francisco March 15, will be led by Kay Pfaltz, a respected tour leader, and by Judy Nelson, the woman best known for taking her ex-lover Martina Navratilova for a ride of sorts. Nelson and Pfaltz will be Virgin escorts to Paris, France - perfect for people who want to celebrate the cessation of that country's nuclear tests.

A second, more extensive, tour is planned for April. Unlike the March vacation, which is entirely Paris-based, later travelers will also visit the Loire Valley.

Both tours originate in London and feature one-way Eurostar train service to Paris, accommodations in a first class hotel, continental breakfasts, museum admissions, transit passes, and a Paris-London return flight. Nelson and Pfaltz have also agreed to host welcome cocktail parties, wine tastings, and some food to wash down all that alcohol, in the form of farewell dinners at the Latin Quarter.

Staying in London

For those who prefer the old unconstructed style of vacation, Virgin still offers the flexibility of "Out in London" holidays. They are also ideal for anyone who just can't wait until England's weather is better than ours; the next plane load leaves next Thursday, February 8.

This is an excellent time to visit London, precisely because its weather isn't tropical and therefore doesn't lure huge hordes away from Cancun and Isla Canaria. What it may lack in sunshine, it more than makes up for in indoor events where the weather doesn't matter. Theatre is relatively cheap there, and it is the only place on earth where it's possible to see Petula Clark as Norma Desmond in Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Sunset Boulevard*. (And she's better than it is, even if she does look like she's playing Angela Lansbury throughout.)



Just a few of London's numerous gay publications.

Of course, there are also 200 other worthwhile productions on any given night - except Sunday - that are worth seeing: Dame Judi Dench in *A Little Night Music* at the National Theatre; Diana Rigg as Mother Courage; Sir Peter Hall's revival of Oscar Wilde's *An Ideal Husband* at the Theatre Haymarket, where it opened 101 years ago; and *Company*, the Donmar Warehouse's brilliant (and possibly final) production, are four that come to mind immediately.

Travelers who rely on nightlife to make their vacations memorable will have no problems in London, where the gay scene is exploding faster than in any city in America right now. It isn't like the old days, when all the gay activity was centered in the Earl's Court area; now the hotspot is Soho, but the action is all over town.

More than a dozen gay publications now compete for readers, most of them full of ads for scores of bars and clubs of every variety. (The largest club, in terms of geography, is Heaven on Villiers Street - a street named for a male lover of England's King James I, in fact. Heaven was briefly owned by Virgin Atlantic, and front-door passes were included in the tour packages last year, but the word in London is that the company sold the club; even a call to the U.S. headquarters couldn't verify that by press time.)

Other dance clubs of interest include Trade - where even the logo is a drug capsule! - and the London Apprentice; they and others are open all night long. Taverns range from trendy fern bars with frozen Margarita machines to old fashioned pubs where you can get a steak-and-kidney pie but not tequila. And here's a note to bar-hopping celebrity watchers: cinematic king/queen/knight Sir Ian MacKellan is said to favor the rather genteel "White Swan."

Of course, most visitors will also want to stop by Buckingham Palace, an even more genteel spot favored by the other queen, at least once, plus Harrod's (which is conveniently close to Patsy and Edina's favorite hangout, Harvey Nichols) and the Tower of London. And Virgin Atlantic is standing by to make it possible.

A few caveats: the flight takes 11 hours; all flights are non-smoking; and same-sex couples with different surnames may want to get to the airport a little early (both ways) to make sure they have been seated together. Virgin

Atlantic may value its gay customers, but it has been known to overlook that detail. ▼

For further information, call Virgin Vacations at (800) 364-6466 and ask about "Out in London" tours.



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GLAAD

Wrestling with Homophobia

by Al Kielwasser

Monday Night Raw – a weekly TV series produced by the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) – has literally made a sport out of gay bashing. In addition to the usual staged wrestling matches, the WWF series now features “entertaining” acts of hate violence.

For several months, one of the featured wrestlers on *Monday Night Raw* – “Goldust” – has essentially played the role of a “gay menace,” lusting after ostensible heterosexual wrestlers and provoking their melodramatic disgust. According to WWF publicity materials, Goldust is a “flamboyant Hollywood legend” who – “despite his wigs and glittery appearance” – is “proving to be one of the toughest competitors in the World Wrestling Federation.” However, audiences for *Monday Night Raw* are patently cued to jeer Goldust – not simply as a villain, but a freak. Ringside announcers have referred to him as “a thing,” and Goldust’s opponents are described as “anxious for the opportunity to get rid of an

obnoxious wrestler whose very presence bugs them.”

During the January 15 broadcast of *Monday Night Raw*, Goldust was violently attacked for revealing his crush on another WWF wrestler, Razor Ramon. While standing before the cameras, Goldust proceeded to publicly lip his romantic intentions. Meanwhile, Ramon – a classic “he-man” icon and WWF “hero” – is seen “off-camera,” his anger steadily rising. The “homosexual panic” hit full tilt when Goldust revealed a heart-shaped tattoo on his chest, inscribed with the name “Razor Ramon.”

In a seething rage, Ramon tracked the “unsuspecting” Goldust and cornered him in a hallway. To assuage his insulted manhood (and entertain his fans), Ramon proceeded to savagely beat Goldust. In a fight staged without resistance, Ramon repeatedly punched and kicked Goldust, hit him with various objects (including a garbage can), and attempted to crush his skull against the floor and walls. Even as Goldust crawled out of the building and into the street, Ramon continued the assault.

Although staged to excite and entertain, this attack possessed none of the comic book overtones typical of professional wrestling bouts. As one critical viewer observed, the whole sequence “was decidedly not funny; the implicit message was, ‘If a gay man comes on to you, it is okay to assault him.’” In fact, it’s not only permissible, but positively desirable.

Key portions of Ramon’s attack have since been replayed several times – some in slow motion – in what amounts, effectively, to a celebration of the basher’s performance. It turns out that cracking open a gay man’s head is not just a right, or even a duty – it’s a bona fide athletic skill.

According to WWF representative Keith Greenberg, *Monday Night Raw* is “the highest-rated weekly series on cable television today” and attracts “nearly five million people just in the United States, where the program is broadcast in both English and Spanish.” WWF publishes a popular monthly magazine as well, which also targets children and young adults.

Ironically, the pages of *World Wrestling Federation Magazine* are splashed with “Presidential Seals of Approval” – certifying that WWF programs provide “Wholesome Family Sports Entertainment.”

Comments and concerns should be sent to WWF headquarters and the USA Network. Contact: Linda E. McMahon, President, World Wrestling Federation/TitanSports, Inc., Titan Tower, 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902-3521, tel. 203-352-8600; USA Network, Audience Services, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York NY 10020, tel. 212-408-9100.

Copy your correspondence or send additional comments to: Vincent Russo, Editor, *World Wrestling Federation Magazine*, P.O. Box 3859, Stamford, CT 06905, tel. 904-445-4320 (customer service); though geared toward young readers, the magazine publishes letters from both children and adults.

Global Lesbianism

As popular as they are disparaged, the impact of tabloid newspapers is not easily dismissed. The January 23 issue of the *Globe* features several articles with lesbian

themes, including a cover story – “My Night of Love in Vanna’s Arms” – which recounts a “lesbian romp” between Vanna White and a “gay bombshell.”

The *Globe*’s “world exclusive” on Vanna White is actually an excerpt from Liza Greer’s new book, *You’ll Never Make Love in This Town Again* (Dove Books, Inc.). The reprinted text is actually much less sensational than the *Globe*’s juvenile headlines.

True or not, Greer’s story is a candid and unapologetic account. “As soon as our heads hit the pillows, Vanna started kissing me. She was exquisite,” Greer writes. “We kissed each other in a way that only women know how. Every inch of her tasted like heaven.” The *Globe* reports that Vanna White did not respond to the newspaper’s attempts to obtain her comments “about the shocking charges Liza Greer made in the book.”

Also in the January 23 issue, the *Globe*’s gossip column – “Hollywood’s Hottest Secrets” – leads off with a sighting of Ellen DeGeneres, as she planted a “luscious lip-lock on a sexy short-haired brunette on ladies-only Lipstick Night” at a new York gay bar. An anonymous “eyewitness” dishes up the details: “Before long, they were holding hands and talking nose-to-nose. Then they were all over each other, and Ellen was giving Stephanie long, deep kisses and running her hands over her arms and shoulders. It was hot!” Significantly, there isn’t a hint of horror or disgust in this “gossip” report, and the piece was no more sensational than the items about heterosexual celebrities.

Finally, the January 23 *Globe* also includes a brief article based on material in Axel Madsen’s book, *The Sewing Circle: Hollywood’s Greatest Secret – Female Stars Who Loved Other Women*. With this puff piece, the *Globe* falls back on some homophobic hyperbole, particularly in the headline: “I Want To Be Alone – With Gals! Hollywood Legends’ Lesbian Loves Bared In Sizzling New Book.” Despite references to Madsen’s book as “shocking” and a “blockbuster expose,” however, the *Globe* still manages to convey a few of the author’s more worthwhile points.

Each of the three *Globe* articles exhibits an unfortunate tabloid bias – framing (and comprehending) homosexuality exclusively as a “shocking revelation” or “secret revealed.” However, each one also manages to transcend the malicious homophobia that is commonly associated with “supermarket journalism.”

Send feedback to Dan Dolan, Editor, *Globe*, 5401 N.W. Broken Sound Blvd., Boca Raton FL 33487. To recommend a story, call the *Globe* at 310-207-7800 (Los Angeles) or 407-997-7733 (Boca Raton).

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request membership or other information, call the 24-hour “MediaAlert Hotline” (415-861-4588) or write to: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, e-mail gladsfba@aol.com, URL <http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html>.



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'All God's Children' Joins Mosbacher's Catalog of Gay Focused Educational Films

by Mary Ann Swissler

Academy Award-nominated filmmaker Dee Mosbacher has a new documentary out to dispel the Christian right's misinformation campaign that gays want to co-opt and corrupt minority status, in order to achieve special rights.

Mosbacher told the *Bay Area Reporter* that media campaigns waged primarily in African-American churches, using homophobic videos like *Gay Rights, Special Rights*, play into the mistaken notion that African-American gays and lesbians don't exist. She proves them wrong in *All God's Children*, which features an all-black crew in interviews with African-American gays and lesbians, along with their African-American allies in the straight community.

Several heroes and heroines in the African-American community, people who have created comfortable spaces for gays and lesbians to worship and get politically organized, are interviewed in *All God's Children*. They include Reverend Carl Bean of The Unity Fellowship in Los Angeles and Cincinnati's Reverend James Nelson.

"He was the only African-American minister in Cincinnati to stand up to the influx of money and misinformation that went on around the [gay exclusionary] initiative that was on the ballot there," Mosbacher told the *B.A.R.*

The video also includes interviews with Reverend Jesse Jackson, State Assemblymember Maxine Waters of Los Angeles, and others.

Unfortunately, Mosbacher acknowledges her video is one of the few baby steps taken by the primarily white organizational structure of the gay and lesbian social justice movement, which has done little to lessen the dual invisibility of gays and lesbians of color. Twenty-six years after Stonewall, she observed, African-American gays and lesbians and their white counterparts still remain oceans



Filmmaker Dee Mosbacher.

apart.

"I think we're still pretty segregated," she said.

Mosbacher, the daughter of one of the Republican Party's more successful fund-raisers, and fellow East Bay filmmaker Frances Reid received Academy Award nominations in 1995 for their film *Straight From the Heart*, which also responded to the radical right's campaign of misinformation about homosexuality. Both it and *All God's Children* came out of Mosbacher's Woman Vision Productions company.

Mosbacher said that the video will be released around the country, and they are going on the road to show it to relatively small groups. She hopes to raise money to fund a salary for one of the co-producers for a year, to do the kind of awareness raising campaigns that have worked so well for the Christian right's agenda.

"What we have planned," she told the *B.A.R.*, "is to do premieres in a whole bunch of cities around the country," in an "adopt-a-church" program. This would involve truly building coalitions be-

tween white and African-American communities by showing the film and training local activists within the community organizations and churches.

"We want to make an impact locally," she said. ▼

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Sex 'In Virtually Every Way Imaginable' Sold in Vegas

PRNewswire

PIXIS, an Orange County, California-based company that calls itself the world leader in interactive adult entertainment software, debuted something entirely new this month at the Winter Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. *DIVA X - Ariana*, the first installment of the *DIVA X* Collection, is, according to company, "an interactive CD-ROM that allows the user to sexually encounter a gorgeous woman in virtually every way imaginable."

Mark Media, President and CEO of PIXIS, boasted that the proprietary Touch & Feel User Interface (TFUI) 2.0 technology used in the CD-ROM "is an evolutionary leap in the man-machine interface."

TFUI 2.0, a technology developed by PIXIS, is said to be the

world's most technologically advanced and realistic method for a computer user to "enter the action." TFUI is described as an intuitive, icon based, 3-D Windows-compatible interface that "enables users to touch and sexually interact with *DIVA X*, in real-time, from the first person point-of-view.

"TFUI 2.0 is compatible with a wide variety of input devices including the mouse, wireless motion trackers and headmounted displays," the company promises. But even more intriguingly, it says, "The *DIVA* can be stimulated using advanced functions: tongue, self-stimulation, special toys, as well as your own hands and body."

Updates are promised bimonthly. The company says its interactive technology is available for other versions of interaction. ▼

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COMMUNITY NEWS

Kaiser May Shut In-Patient Facilities

United Press International

Kaiser Permanente may shut down the in-patient facilities at its 334-bed flagship hospital in Oakland, and farm out the patients needing hospitalization to other area hospitals in order to save money, officials said Friday, January 26.

That hospital is reportedly operating at only 50 percent of capacity.

If the cost-cutting plan is approved and saves the hospital money, the strategy would be spread through Kaiser's 2.4-million member Northern California region.

Kaiser found itself with some of the highest costs in the industry for the same reason that it once had some of the lowest: it owns its own hospitals.

"Continuing with our traditional hospital strategy ... would mean replacing half-empty hospitals by sinking hundreds of millions of dollars into bricks and mortar versus investing those funds in direct patient care," Kaiser officials said in a prepared statement.

Kaiser, the nation's largest HMO, said the consolidation strategy is one of several under consideration to address the growing surplus of hospital beds in northern California.

The proposal calls for merging Kaiser with three other non-profit HMO hospitals in the San Francisco Bay Area: Summit Medical Center and Children's Hospital in Oakland and Alta Bates Medical



Kaiser cost-cutting: Their Oakland facility may be on the chopping block.

Center in Berkeley.

"But it could end up working the other way," Kaiser spokesman Tom Debley said. "There's surplus facilities throughout the entire region. They could send their patients to us."

Kaiser plans to initiate talks with the other hospitals and decide whether to go ahead with the consolidation plan in the next 60 to 90 days, Debley said.

David Pockell, head of the Kaiser health plan's northern California region, denied that the change amounted to a fundamental change in how the HMO functions.

Outpatient services, which account for most of Kaiser care,

would continue to make office visits at their current facilities.

Patients would be sent to a non-Kaiser hospital where they would still continue to receive care from their Kaiser doctor. Kaiser's patients in Stockton already receive treatment under this arrangement.

The hospital reportedly decided to announce its consideration of the consolidation plan — even though it has not been adopted — so that the community was aware of the proposals.

"We knew that just the fact that we were talking with other hospitals would set off a lot of rumors," Debley said. ▼

Kaiser Video Focus: Gay and Lesbian Invisibility, Illnesses

by Mary Ann Swissler

A video made by Kaiser Permanente recognizes that the AIDS epidemic has overshadowed other health concerns of gay men and lesbians, and begins to address the deficit of information it identifies.

The video, already shown to approximately 1,000 predominantly straight doctors and nurses, features openly gay physicians Dr. Michael Clement and Dr. Kate O'Hanlan and other healthcare workers discussing the problem. Clement observes that only a handful of articles about gay men's non-HIV/AIDS-related health concerns have been published in medical journals in the past decade; O'Hanlan says the potential medical problems faced by lesbians are slightly better known.

That is, in part, due to the work of O'Hanlan, associate director of the Gynecologic Cancer Section of Stanford University Medical Center. Recently she has combined her credentials and her concern to successfully advocate for getting lesbians included in government medical research. Most notably, through her efforts and the work of National Center for Lesbian Rights health advocate Marj Plumb and others, lesbians will be specifically mentioned in The Women's Health Initiative of

160,000 women, the largest NIH study of women's health undertaken to date.

In a 1993 NIH-sponsored workshop on the recruitment and retention of women in clinical studies, O'Hanlan presented findings from previous studies that found lesbians could possibly be at a higher risk for cancer of the breasts, lungs, ovaries, colon, and cervix, along with higher rates of heart disease and stroke. She said the small-scale studies on lesbians conducted by the National Health Interview Survey, the National Health Study on Drug Abuse, and the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey reported that the primary causes were behavioral: higher rates of cigarette smoking, alcoholism, higher body mass index, less likelihood of bearing children, fewer screening exams such as blood pressure checks, pap smears, breast exams and mammograms, and lower rates of self-care were all factors.

Moreover, a high percentage of lesbians report extremely negative interactions with doctors, a fact that has been further supported by clinician surveys about homophobia, both Clement and O'Hanlan said.

O'Hanlan believes that moving physicians away from homophobia, and toward a greater understanding of lesbians and gay men,

is vital for better healthcare and gay rights in general. "I think it has to start in the medical community," she says in the video, "because we have access to information that there is no pathology associated with homosexuality."

Of course, educating about homophobia inside any profession is never a guarantee that it will go away. But as the video observes, once gays and lesbians are openly and seriously discussed, the invisibility is gone.

As part of the viewing, in an attempt to create empathy among the doctors and nurses who saw the video, they were invited to take a mock survey that included such questions as, "What do you think made you into a heterosexual?"

Unfortunately, a majority of its viewers said the problem identified in the video was also a problem with the video itself; they complained it lacked medical data they could apply in their clinical practices.

Copies were sent to the National Library of Medicine, to fifty Kaiser centers nationwide, and are also available through a mail order house. ▼

The video can be ordered by sending a check or money order for \$44.95 to Symposia Foundation, P.O. Box 2107, Carlsbad CA 92018.

Should Kaiser Keep Gay-Friendly Physician Lists?

Yes, Say Experts ... and No, Say Experts

by Mary Ann Swisler

Although Southern California clients of Kaiser Permanente may call a special number to find gay and gay-friendly member doctors, there is no such service for Northern Californians. And opinion about that service lack in the Bay Area, even among gay doctors, is divided.

Openly gay Kaiser surgeon and executive director of Bay Area Physicians for Human Rights Dr. Charles Meltzer told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the situations are different with so many more people living in Southern California than in the Bay Area, and said, "I think it depends on the relationship you have with the patient. As far as lists are concerned, I don't think you need to have an official list."

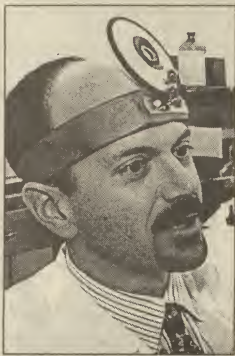
But Ben Schatz, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association, who also happens to be a Kaiser client, said, "The question is, how do you allow people to express an interest? They have no mechanism to allow those people to identify themselves as gay or lesbian, or gay or lesbian-friendly."

Schatz said Kaiser's recent video screening to 1,000 of its member physicians to educate them about homophobia and gay/lesbian health issues [see related story, "Kaiser Video Focus: Gay and Lesbian Invisibility, Illnesses"], illustrates problems with Kaiser's outreach to its gay and lesbian clients.

"It's one thing to have a video," he said. "It's another thing to have a mechanism for patients to call Kaiser and be able to find out what doctors are gay and lesbian, or gay and lesbian-friendly."

Dr. Helen Hammer, who works in Kaiser's Sacramento region, said, "I guess, ideally, we want to make all of our physicians that way, so that there doesn't have to be a special list."

"You want to have a situation where all the doctors are going to treat all of the patients," Meltzer agreed.



Dr. Charles Meltzer

Overloaded Gay Docs

Kaiser does not keep any list of queer Northern California doctors because with such a large client base, gay and lesbian physicians could end up overloaded, and patients could receive sub-standard care, Hammer said. Additionally, there's the fear of being outed, and gay-friendly doctors who appeared on a list would be worried about incorrect assumptions.

Hammer went on to say that within the Kaiser system, lesbians and gays can "absolutely" switch physicians if they are confronted by a homophobic experience.

Yet Schatz contended, "I think that's a complete cop-out, because in an ideal world everyone is open to everything, but the fact is that gays and lesbians have had negative experiences with homophobic doctors," Kaiser included.

Meltzer defended Kaiser staff as a very enlightened group of people overall, especially in San Francisco. He pointed to Kaiser's domestic partners benefits package for all employees, and availability of artificial insemination services to lesbians. Also, Kaiser has just started a new follow-up quality survey of all new patients.

"We want our patients to be happy. It's not just get them in and

get them out," he said. "We like practicing medicine, we didn't join Kaiser because we wanted to drive a Mercedes down Castro." He drives a Honda, he said.

But Kaiser client Pat Tibbs, executive director of the Spectrum Center in Marin County, told the *B.A.R.* that much more could be done to serve the needs of lesbian patients. After numerous phone calls she found a female heterosexual internist, with whom she is happy. "However," she admitted, "I would feel more comfortable if I was seeing a lesbian physician."

Schatz said that it is possible to locate one at Kaiser, but only through an incredible amount of secrecy.

"Their practitioners need to feel safe in being out," Tibbs emphasized.

After the *B.A.R.* began inquiring into the matter, Meltzer called to say he had arranged to meet with the HMO's internal gay and lesbian group about compiling a gay-positive list. ▼

The Southern California Kaiser phone line for gay and gay-friendly doctors is (818) 405-5600.

Photo: Gregory H. Fleischer



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Continued from page 1

that you would get for, say, cancer. If you have cancer you go see an oncologist."

That will soon change, according to Jeff Jackson, Manager of Community and Government Relations at Kaiser, who told the *B.A.R.* that Kaiser will announce at the February 1 public hearing their new standard of care requirements for HIV/AIDS patients recommended by the HIV/AIDS Community Consortium.

Additionally, a Kaiser member who also belongs to the group People With AIDS Consortium (PWAC) has been appointed to an internal HIV/AIDS committee at Kaiser, according to Jackson. They are looking for a member of ACT UP/Golden Gate who is a Kaiser member to be on the committee as well, he said.

And while this particular standard of care does not include the use of viral load testing or the

human growth hormone, which ACT UP/Golden Gate and ACT UP/East Bay have both lobbied for, it's better than the existing, non-existent standards, said Sharp.

He added that negotiations are continuing with Kaiser through meetings spearheaded by Ammi-ano's office, to use viral load testing and human growth hormones.

But Sharp noted that ACT UP had originally asked Kaiser to adopt ACT UP/Philadelphia's standards of care, which are more detailed and thorough, and include both treatments that are currently withheld by Kaiser from its HIV/AIDS patients.

Ammiano aide Mike Housh commented that in today's belt-tightening climate in health care organizations, "I think ACT UP is on the right track. ... Unfortunately, if you don't fight for yourself you won't get the care you deserve."

"It was a wake-up call that Kaiser probably needed." ▼

[For more on viral load testing, see related story on page 23.]

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Nobody Expects The Episcopal Inquisition

But Here It Is!

by Bob Roehr

Heresy: the word conjures images of medieval woodcuts, of anguished sinners tied to stakes while purifying tongues of flame lap from stacked bundles of woods—better known in those days as faggots.

So why then is the Episcopal Church, one of the most progressive mainline denominations, about to stage only the second heresy trial in its 300-year history in the United States?

Faggots—but of a different kind. Conservatives within the church are using the ordination of "practicing homosexuals" as a wedge issue against their opponents.

Reverend Barry Stopfel is the object they would like to smite down. He is pastor of St. George's, a prototypical Episcopal-looking stone church in the New Jersey suburb of Maplewood. He is not looking for controversy, he just wants to be a good priest.

Being gay in and of itself isn't a problem for the Episcopal Church. A 1976 resolution by the General Convention, the Church's governing body, declared "all persons are children of God." Today more than a hundred openly gay or lesbian people serve as priests.

No, the problem is that the middle-aged Stopfel is presumed to be a "practicing" homosexual. He and Will Leckie have been together since they met in seminary a decade ago. Leckie is an ordained minister of the United Church of Christ.

The Episcopal Church discourages sex outside of marriage. The Catch-22 is that it doesn't recognize gay marriages, yet. A group is studying that question and may possibly recommend the blessing of same-sex unions to the convention that meets in 1997.

The conservatives can't go after Stopfel. His parish adores him. Within the Church hierarchy he is accountable only to the Bishop of Newark, John Spong, who is one of the Church's most steadfast supporters of gays and lesbians.

So they aimed their wrath at Walter C. Righter, the retired Bishop of Iowa. It was Righter who ordained Stopfel as a deacon, the preliminary step to priesthood,

in 1990 when he was assistant bishop in the Diocese of Newark.

Ten traditionalist bishops moved in January 1995. They filed what is called a "presentment," demanding Righter be tried before the Court for the Trial of a Bishop for violation of canon (church) law.

"Simply put, we are convinced that the Episcopal Church clearly teaches that it is not lawful or appropriate to knowingly ordain a practicing homosexual," wrote William C. Wantland, Bishop of Au Claire, Wisconsin in his letter for the ten.

The position is eerily reminiscent of "don't ask, don't tell," the policy that bans gays from serving openly in the military. Neither objects to theoretical homosexual persons so long as they remain celibate and quiet, denying basic aspects of their humanity. The military ban is faring poorly in the courts while the ecclesiastical one is doing no better in most Episcopal parishes.

Breakdown of Authority

The traditionalists have called Righter's actions a "breakdown of authority" and vowed to "bring to trial all those who have knowingly violated the teaching of the Church." That list includes sitting bishops in Chicago, Washington, Newark, and other large dioceses. They convinced a quarter of their nearly 300 fellow bishops to sign on.

Righter sees the charges as "harassment—not of me, but of the Church." He notes that both the House of Bishops and the General Convention rejected motions to censure him over the ordination.

James M. Stanton is Bishop of Dallas and spokesman for those bringing the charges. He argues that "every convention in the last 20 years has passed some kind of resolution reaffirming the traditional teaching of marriage and marital fidelity." Thus, practicing homosexuals are in violation of Church doctrine and shouldn't be ordained.

Kim Byham, spokesman for the Righter faction, disagrees. The former national president of Integrity, an organization of gay and lesbian Episcopalians, points to a canon adopted by the convention in 1994. It prohibits discrimina-

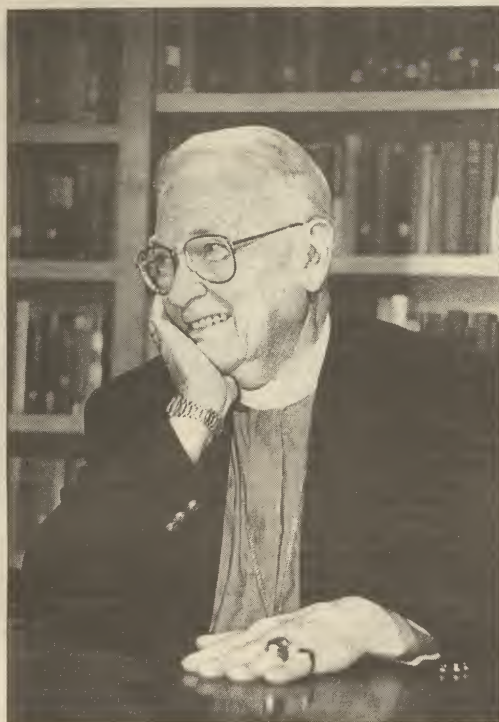


Photo: Rick Gerhart

Righter and the righteous: The retired bishop of Iowa is the target of traditionalists' wrath.

tion in the selection process for ordination and specifically includes "sexual orientation."

Furthermore, says Byham, the 1994 convention considered a moratorium on the ordination of homosexuals, but rejected that proposal by a 4-1 margin.

R. William Franklin sees the issue as "very important" to the Church because it has "a proportionally large gay and lesbian population," and seemingly has for a long period of time.

The Professor of Church History at the General Theological Seminary, the national seminary of the Episcopal Church, cites a book published last year, *Boston Bohemia* by Douglass Shand-Tucci. It documents a gay subculture in the Episcopal Church in Boston in the 1890s.

Then, in the 1950s began "the

much broader issue of the Church absorbing cultural change," Franklin explains. Race came first, then ordination of women, and over the last 20 years issues surrounding sexuality. "The question now is that gay and lesbian people would like to live open lives. Conservatives say that is not possible."

But for Franklin, "The theological insights of the ordination of women, about Jesus redeeming all of humanity, has now been applied to questions about sexuality. If that is true of women, isn't that true of gay and lesbian people?"

The fight has escalated in a series of public statements and procedural motions worthy of the O.J. trial. Both sides scream that the other is attempting to impose their will upon the majority.

Continued on page 26

Photo by Steven Underhill



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Catholic Charities Gets AIDS Ed, Tolerance Grants

by Mary Ann Swissler

The East Bay branch of Catholic Charities received a grant of \$500 to continue tolerance education programs in East Bay churches and an additional \$80,000 in grants to continue advocacy and HIV/AIDS education for California prison inmates with HIV/AIDS.

Judy Greenspan, director of the HIV/AIDS in Prison Project, told the *Bay Area Reporter* that the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation donated \$30,000 to continue her work in attempting to provide HIV/AIDS education to inmates throughout the state. She added that it's commendable that a large institution like Kaiser would help support their work in a political climate where prisoners are the last people anyone wants to assist.

According to Greenspan, an additional \$50,000 public policy grant came from the Northern California Grantmakers' AIDS Task Force. With this grant in particular, she said, "There will be specific emphasis on women's health-care needs among prisoners." Only one women's prison in the entire state, Chowchilla, offers HIV/AIDS peer education support, and that was only a result of persistently refusing to back down from objections from prison officials, said Greenspan.

"There's very little medical care for women prisoners," she told the *B.A.R.*, "and reports that we have



Dignity/SF's Mario M. Torriginio (second from left), seen here after presenting a grant to Hospice by the Bay officials, also awarded one to Catholic Charities/East Bay for their work.

heard are that conditions are becoming worse." A class action lawsuit against the state over medical care for women prisoners was filed last April, said Greenspan.

"I'm hoping that with these grants, I can expand and hire an assistant, which is very much needed," she said. "It shows an understanding about the very critical nature of advocacy for prisoners with HIV." Greenspan said that she and others are in the early stages of planning a statewide conference about issues related to HIV/AIDS in prison, including inviting former inmates to discuss the value of peer education programs. She said those programs

have shown quick results, yet remain extremely unpopular among state prison officials.

Greenspan said that she will also be able to continue advocating for a compassionate release law for incarcerated late stage AIDS inmates, a bill that was vetoed last year by Governor Pete Wilson. "Even though it's a much more hostile legislature this year, we are going to keep this issue alive," she said.

Educational grants to Catholic Charities/East Bay will go towards expansion of their church outreach programs in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Dignity/San Francisco, a faith commu-

nity of gay and lesbian Catholics, donated \$500 towards the Task Force for Outreach to Gay and Lesbian Communities, which started in 1990. The program strives to treat gay rights as a basic human and civil right by doing away with stereotypes about homosexuals through church-based workshops.

"This grant recognizes the Task Force's fine work in educating people in East Bay parishes to be more loving and Christ-like, in the way they treat their gay and lesbian family members, especially children," said Mario Torriginio, co-chair of Dignity/San Francisco. ▼

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Photo by Michael Prentiss

Step Towards HIV Nutritional Trials

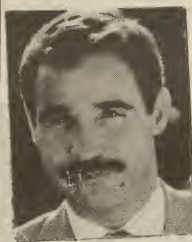
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AIDS FILE



Philanthropic Phantom: The SF cast of Phantom of the Opera presented generous checks to various AIDS organizations Jan. 24.

Photo: Phil Magliarese Jr.

Get Hip, Not Hep

by Mary Ann Swissler

The safety and effectiveness of a vaccine against the Hepatitis A virus on HIV-positive men and women will begin testing through a research treatment study in San Jose.

Results of the study will begin to make up for the limited clinical data currently available showing the effects, if any, of the hepatitis vaccine on immune suppressed systems, according to Carol Kemper, M.D. of the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center's Division of Infectious Disease. Participants will be monitored for changes in markers of HIV infection (CD4 counts and HIV RNA levels) following the first and second dose of the vaccine, or the placebo.

The study is open to men and women who are age 19 and older and meet other medical criteria. For more information contact Carol Kane, R.N. at (408) 885-4317.

Anthropologists Demand Sodomy Reform

Saying that quality HIV/AIDS education could not take place where sexual activities practiced by gay men, lesbians, along with many heterosexuals, is illegal, The Society for Applied Anthropology announced that they would no longer schedule future meetings in states where sodomy laws are still on the books. This includes about half of the nation's 52 states. "Many applied anthropologists who are active in AIDS research by promoting safer sex activities for vaginal, anal, and oral sex have been placed in an untenable position in those states that continue to criminalize anal and oral sex," according to an SfAA spokesperson.

The AIDS Advisory Committee and later, the full membership, passed the motion because al-

though sodomy laws are rarely enforced, they "have created an intolerable atmosphere of oppression against gay men, lesbians, and bisexuals."

Scoring Up AIDS Funds

Phantom of the Opera stars Franc D'Ambrosio and Lisa Vroman presented dramatically large sums of money which they raised over the holiday season for three AIDS organizations, at a January 24 ceremony. Along with other cast members from the San Francisco company of *Phantom*, the leading duo presented checks for \$106,671 to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, \$26,667 to the Bay Area Perinatal AIDS Center and \$26,667 to an AIDS program administered by Lutheran Social Services of San Francisco at the Ambassador Hotel.

For six weeks, donations were solicited from the audience at *Phantom* shows, with each dollar matched by Absolut Vodka.

AZT No More Harmful to Minorities

UCSF AIDS researchers reported that AZT use in ethnic minority patient populations showed no significant amount of side effects, as in white/non-Hispanic patients.

Dr. Mark Jacobson, UCSF associate professor of medicine in the UCSF AIDS Program at San Francisco General Hospital said that the impetus behind the study was an attempt to measure anecdotal evidence presented by approximately 2,200 patients enrolled in previous AIDS clinical trials. "This study was based on 'softer' data, reports from the patients themselves about pain or discomfort, rather than laboratory data. We looked at patients of all three ethnic groups who reported new or worse symptoms after they began taking AZT. We saw no significant differences."

The study was published in the

January 1996 issue of the *Journal of Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndromes and Human Retrovirology*.

"This study supports the early treatment of minority patients with AZT," said Jacobson.

Face to Face with the Wheel of Fortune

Face to Face, the Sonoma County AIDS Network, will hold their first fundraising event of the year on February 17 beginning at 7 p.m., at the Sebastopol Community Center, located at 390 Morris Street, in Sebastopol. The theme of the evening will be a Mardi Gras celebration complete with blackjack tables and a wheel of fortune. A Cajun menu will be included. Tickets are on sale for \$10 in advance or \$12 at the door. Advance tickets can be purchased at Backdoor Records in Santa Rosa and Copperfield's Music in Sebastopol.

For more information call
Face to Face at (707) 544-1581.

Learn To Talk on the Phone

Training for Project Inform's telephone hotline volunteers begins Wednesday, February 7 at 6:30 to 9:30 p.m., followed by a two-day session on Saturday, February 10 and Sunday, February 11 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. It will be held at the Project Inform office located at 1965 Market St., Suite 220. Volunteers will be expected to work at least one three-hour shift per week providing HIV/AIDS treatment information to over 50,000 clients internationally. The hotline operates Monday through Saturday, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

For additional information about this or other ways to volunteer at Project Inform contact Volunteer Coordinator Mark Owens at (415) 557-8669. ▼

ACTION Update

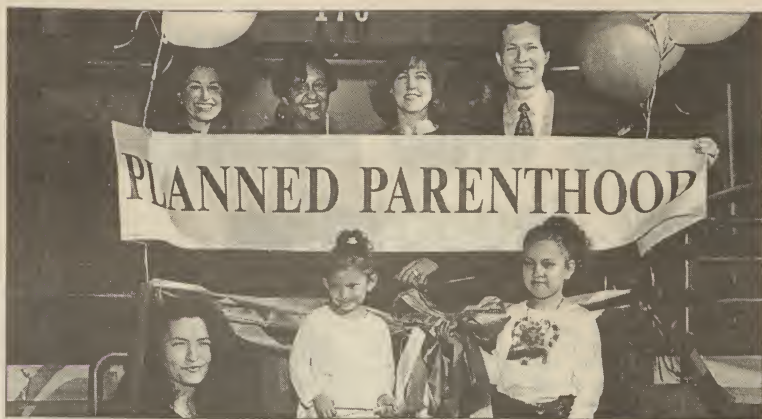
Accessing Drug-Assistance Payment Programs

ACT UP/Golden Gate will continue its series of Self Advocacy Group meetings on Tuesday, February 6th at 6 p.m.

The focus of the meeting will be on how patients without drug insurance coverage can access AIDS drugs through existing Drug Assistance Payment Programs. Michael Chesic, the Patient Advocate at the Castro Village Pharmacy, will talk on this subject and answer any questions that people might have concerning these programs.

* This is part of a series of ongoing meetings open to anyone who has been having problems related to their healthcare and who wants to learn more about how to advocate for themselves.

This group meets the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month at the ACT UP/Golden Gate offices, located at 592 Castro Street, at 6 p.m., before the Treatment Issues meeting. Everyone is welcome. ▼



Planned Parenthood Golden Gate opened a new branch in Menlo Park Jan. 25. This clinic is the first in the region to offer primary care for women and children in addition to traditional reproductive health care.

Breast Cancer Treatment Approval Expected

by Mary Ann Swissler

Approval is imminent for an experimental breast cancer treatment at UCSF available through a compassionate release program by the drug's manufacturer, Genentech.

Activists with the Breast Cancer Action and ACT UP/Golden Gate, the groups responsible for pressuring Genentech in 1995 into allowing the monoclonal antibody "Her2/neu" to be used for patients with advanced breast cancer, told the B.A.R. they were disappointed that UCSF did not give full approval at a Thursday, January 25 meeting.

Marilyn McGregor said that the "contingent approval" given to the compassionate use program by an internal hospital committee was an unwelcome delay.

But Sharon Friend, Institutional Review Board Administrator at UCSF and member of the research review committee, said that the delay was only a matter of days, and not weeks or months as backers of the compassionate release protocol had feared. Friend told the B.A.R. that issues raised will not have to go back to committee.

"There were some confusing points in the protocol about recruitment and assignment," according to Friend, but "these

aren't major questions and concerns."

Questions over safety and dosages were "typical" for any clinical study, according to Friend.

Western Women Get Free 'Grams

Free mammogram screenings will be offered in the Western Addition for women 50 years and older. The program, sponsored by the Department of Public Health, Breast Cancer Action, and the UCSF Mobile Mammography unit, will be held from 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at the Maxine Hall Health Center, located at 1301 Pierce Street, near Ellis Street. Additional information will be available on breast health, breast self-exam instruction, and nutrition. A nurse will be on hand to answer any questions.

A \$5 reservation fee will be charged, refundable to people who show up for their appointment. Call 292-1300 for more information.

Dykes on Bikes and Hikes

On the stress reduction front, The Spectrum Center for Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Concerns is starting women-only hike 'n' bike day trips around the Bay Area. Beginning in April, lesbians

and bisexuals can enjoy the company of other women while getting fresh air, sunshine, and exercise.

If you are interested in leading groups or just want to get on the mailing list for upcoming events, call (415) 457-1115, ext. 230. ▼

Are you HIV POSITIVE with SEVERE DIARRHEA?

Volunteers sought for a 3 month clinical trial to study the efficacy of albendazole, a new investigational drug, in the symptomatic treatment of severe diarrhea caused by intestinal microsporidiosis.

Volunteers who participate in the study will be compensated for trial-related expenses.

If you have more than 3 liquid bowel movements a day for at least 2 weeks you may be eligible for this study. For further information, please call:

Richard Cazen, MD
Davies Medical Center
415-565-6288

or
Lisa T., Research Assistant
San Francisco General Hospital
415-206-4746

UCSF AIDS PROGRAM

HIV Treatment Update

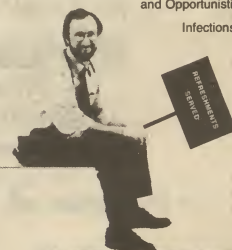
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COMMUNITY NEWS

Ryan White, HOPWA Funds Now Facing New Jeopardies

by Dennis Conkin

AIDS advocates and service providers are urging *Bay Area Reporter* readers to contact their elected representatives to demand that Congress appropriate adequate funds for the Ryan White CARE Act and Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA).

According to San Francisco AIDS Foundation Director of Public Affairs Paul Di Donato, the current budget stalemate could result in the elimination of a recently approved \$23 million increase in Ryan White funds to cities around the country, including San Francisco.

HOPWA funding survived Republican congressional efforts to completely eliminate the program, but received no increases, which means that San Francisco could also lose money as more cities around the country become eligible for, and begin to participate in, the program.

The funds are secure through the beginning of March because of a Continuing Resolution that keeps the government open — but AIDS services could be decimated in the debate over budget specifics, according to AIDS public policy experts.

"The lives and well-being of thousands are at risk in the current debate over federal funding, and cuts in funding could be devastating for those living with HIV/AIDS," Di Donato said in a press statement. "We can expect a



SFAF's Paul Di Donato: "Any decrease in services is unacceptable."

decrease in life expectancy when necessary services are not available."

The programs are potential victims of the larger fight between the Democrats and Republicans intent on their revolution, said Dr. Steve Morin, a legislative aide to Congresswoman Nanci Pelosi.

"These are important issues that they are fighting over. Neither of these programs are particularly controversial, and they're not really the problem," Morin told the *Bay Area Reporter*.

Morin said that the fight is really about the Republican effort to scuttle Medicaid and environmental protections, as well as key Democratic education and labor spending programs.

Morin added that although he expects the program to survive, there are other new AIDS expend-

es coming down the pike — including the costs of new AIDS drugs such as 3TC and Zalcitabine — and federal funds are going to be needed to help people with AIDS obtain them.

"The argument over how and when to balance the federal budget seems to ignore the effects of cuts in services on those who need them most," Di Donato said.

"Any decrease in services is unacceptable."

San Francisco receives an estimated \$40 million a year in Ryan White funds, which are used for HIV direct services. In addition, the city receives an estimated \$11 million in HOPWA funds yearly, which are used to provide people with HIV/AIDS rent subsidies and to provide capital for purchasing and rehabilitating housing for people with AIDS. ▼

Bigger Isn't Always Better ... Penis Surgeon Ordered To Stop

United Press International

A Southern California urologist agreed Friday, January 26 to stop advertising and performing penis enlargement surgery that left some patients with scarred or crooked organs.

The state Medical Board said the stipulation from Dr. Melvyn Rosenstein of Culver City was signed by an administrative law judge, who scheduled a February 8 hearing to determine if further action is warranted.

The board charged that Rosenstein misled men about his ability to increase the length of their penises, failed to inform them of the risks, and engaged in grossly negligent medical practices.

Specifically, it said the surgeon did not advise patients that fat injections to make penises wider can cause lumpiness, bending, and scarring. It also alleged that he did not advise them that cutting a ligament only appears to make a penis longer without actually lengthening it, and may make it shorter and unstable.

The board said Rosenstein used unsterile surgical procedures and failed to provide standard exams or care before and after operations.

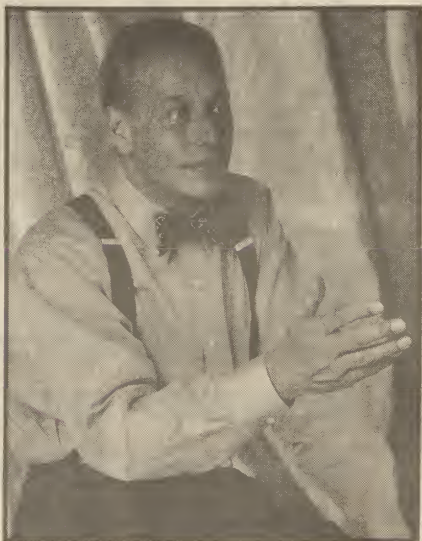
"The judge's order is a victory for consumers in that Dr. Rosenstein must stop his misleading advertising," said board Executive Director Ron Joseph. "More important, because he may not perform surgery, the public will not be subjected to his risky and unsafe procedures."

Elisa Wolfe, a deputy attorney general assigned to the case, said Rosenstein still could treat urinary tract infections since his practice is restricted, not suspended. However, she added that as many as 37 medical malpractice cases are pending against Rosenstein.

"Lots of patients wound up with a lumpy penis that was badly scarred, which is the result of fat injections," she said in an interview. "Scarring can cause the penis to be crooked. Some of the patients have a penis that's at an angle, increasing the risk of infection." ▼

LENNY BLOOM

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“As an openly gay man living in New York City in the 70's and 80's, I experienced the exhilaration of gay liberation after Stonewall, and then despair as the AIDS epidemic cut down so many wonderful people in the prime of their lives. My lover Gary and I lost most of our close friends.

“Before the AIDS crisis struck, as a young attorney I provided free legal services to gay rights activists, and in 1977 became a Board member of the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, the nation's leading legal advocate for gay men and lesbians. Then, in the earliest years of the AIDS epidemic, I volunteered at the Gay Men's Health Crisis, and from 1984 to 1990 served as a member of GMHC's Board, fighting to get the government to recognize the crisis, provide money for AIDS research and care for the sick. I also co-founded and chaired the AIDS Action Council in Washington, D.C., the largest national effort to champion the needs of people with HIV and AIDS. Later, I served as Executive Director of AIDS Project Los Angeles, where I helped raise millions of dollars to assist people living with HIV/AIDS.

“Now, I am proud to have become Chairman and CEO of American Life Resources. At first, I had some skepticism about the viatical settlement industry, but once I saw some of my own friends sell their life insurance policies, stop worrying about money and get greater control over their lives, it became clear that viatical settlements are all about living and getting on with life. Cashing in on their life insurance made it possible for them to afford quality health care, pay their bills and live a more relaxed and less stressful lifestyle.

“As head of the nation's oldest viatical settlement company, I will press for regulation of this industry by state insurance departments to educate and protect consumers, and safeguard their confidentiality. I'll also be actively involved in assuring aggressive monitoring by the industry itself. My goal is that those companies which play by the rules and serve their clients' interests succeed, while those that cut corners disappear.

“I want people with HIV and AIDS – the people of my community – to live longer, with a sustained quality of life. You have my assurance that if you deal with American Life Resources, we will always put your interests first. Indeed, we encourage everyone who calls us to consult an independent financial counselor or attorney so they understand all their options. And because our staff is trained by professionals who work with local AIDS organizations, when you call us you'll be talking to someone who understands the complex issues facing people with HIV/AIDS.”

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Obituaries must be typed and no longer than 200 words. Please follow normal rules of capitalization - and no poetry. We reserve the right to edit for style, clarity, grammar and taste.

If you're submitting a photo of the deceased, write their name on the back. If you include a SASE for the photo's return, write the person's name on the inside of the envelope flap. All obituaries must include a contact name and phone number.

Deadline for all obituaries is Monday at 5 p.m.

Roger Black

July 12, 1951 - Jan. 2, 1996

On the morning after the first day of the New Year, our dear friend Roger left this world to join his life partner Kim and so many others lost to AIDS. He was attended by his father, brothers and two close friends as he passed peacefully in his sleep.

Roger grew up in Drexel Hills, Pa., and was educated at Middlebury College in Vermont. In 1975 he was ripe for a new life and ventured to San Francisco. He came to greatly appreciate the local gay community for its openness and support in good times and bad. He worked for many years as an analyst for the Health Policies Institute of UCSF until retiring in 1992.

Roger sensed he would not live a long life, but he lived a fine and full life. His passion was traveling. He explored five continents and countless tropical islands.

He was honest, forthright and funny. As a friend, Roger was dependable and loyal. He had a knack for bringing people together. His legacy will be the friendships he forged that will survive to remember his goodness.

A gathering to commemorate Roger's life was held at his home in Terra Linda on Jan. 21. ▼

Michael Edwin Mears

June 14, 1949 - Dec. 28, 1995

Michael Edwin Mears, known to most as one of the "Mikes" of Foresthill, Calif., died on Dec. 28 at his beloved home in Foresthill.

Mike was taken care of the last months of his life by his parents, Ralph and Anna Mears of Sunnyvale. He also leaves his sister, Pamela Hein of San Diego.

Mike was born in Palo Alto and lived in Foresthill for 14 years. He was an Army veteran of the Vietnam War and owned Mike's Puzzle Shop in Old Sacramento until his death.

Mike will be remembered for his generosity, love of people and his wild sense of humor. He loved traveling, giving parties, the American River, handsome faces, his dogs Dorsey and Dottie, his friends, his family and Mike Newman. His ashes will be scattered in Half Moon Bay, along the American River, and in Foresthill beneath the cherry tree with those of his lover, Mike Newman. Donations in Mike's memory may be made to Placer AIDS Services, 12183 Lockley Lane, No. 205, Auburn, CA 95602.

Mike, thanks for many years of friendship. We love you and miss you.

Gordon L. Hibbs

January 9, 1996

Gordon L. Hibbs, 38, of San Francisco passed away on Jan. 9. He was a former employee of American Express in Phoenix and most recently associated with Project Inform in San Francisco for several years.

Gordon is survived by his aunt, Winifred Hibbs of Phoenix, and friends Alberta DeWitt and Terry Terrell of Phoenix, Scott Driscoll and Joe Schuman of San Francisco, and Christopher Gray of Las Vegas. Contributions may be made to Project Inform, 1965 Market St., Ste. 220, San Francisco, CA 94103. ▼

Jeffery Allen Huffaker

Aug. 28, 1961 - Jan. 8, 1996

This world became a little darker place when our friend Jeff passed away at his brother's home in Sacramento on Jan. 8.

Jeff was a kind, gentle-hearted man, who, after serving in the Navy, went on to pursue a career in nursing, after relocating to California from his home in Kentucky. He worked actively at Davies Medical Center and Coming Home Hospice, where he comforted many others.

Jeff will be greatly missed in the hearts of his friend, John, and his family, Steve, Diane and Scott. He is missed but never forgotten. ▼

Robert Heard

January 23, 1996

The plague took my Bob on the afternoon of Jan. 23 at age 32. He faced death entirely free of fear and

and marched directly into its arms with a courage and nobility that changed the lives of everyone present.

Bob lived totally on his own terms. Independence was his watchword, and he suffered no fools.

He escaped the oppression of his native Louisiana, battled the U.S. Army over its homophobia, and burned his uniforms at the base gate when they kicked him out. Last April he received his college degree, awarded with honors, and added "school smarts" to "street smarts."

Bob brimmed with life, dashing through it with an energy that astonished, attracted and inspired. Boyish charm and "old soul" wisdom poured out with equal ease. He loved bears, men with gray hair, fast cars and a good time.

Those left to mourn the passing of this bright flame include his Daddy Greg; Sapphire; Annie; his beloved Bruzer, who brought him great joy and pride; The Family, whose loving support endures; and all those who feel the tragedy of loss seeing his picture here.

A memorial party will celebrate his life on February 11. Call 415/626-4377 for details. ▼

David (Kawika) Espaniola

January 9, 1996

Our friend Kawika passed away in San Jose, Calif., on Tuesday, January 9, from complications arising from pneumocystis. He died quietly and quickly, and was with friends when he left us.

He was the perpetual smiling face and generous laugh that made our lives a little lighter and happier. He will be greatly missed by many in Honolulu as well as California and many other places. We hope his gentle treatment of hula, his loving antics and his own personal warmth will be appreciated wherever he goes. ▼

Michael Dabal Vay

Sept. 18, 1943 - Dec. 30, 1995

You left us unannounced, ending your years of "prayer and meditation" in the Arizona desert around Tucson. To most you appeared private and reclusive. To those few you chose to have close to you, you were devilishly lovable, always talking and overly generous.

Missed will be those frequent visits to Ken and Larry's in San Francisco, the cherished house gifts, your garlic recipes and memorable dinners at The City's best eateries. We are going to miss your humor and those lengthy phone calls. You proved a true friend in times of need. Regret that when you visited at Thanksgiving, no one knew your departure was so near.

Michael was born in Kew Gardens, N.Y., the only child of George and Lillian (Dabal) Vay. Both parents are deceased, and Michael is survived only by East Coast cousins on his mother's side. A graduate of Syracuse University in literature, Michael proudly served in the U.S. Air Force in Crete and Thailand. He was laid to rest at Cave Creek National Memorial Cemetery in Phoenix on January 23. ▼

James G. Brooks

July 7, 1950 - Jan. 20, 1996

After a long and courageous battle with AIDS, our dear friend Jim left this world at 1:30 a.m.

on Saturday, Jan. 20. His sister, Della, and brother-in-law, Jerry, were with him as he made his final journey.

Jim was born in Arkansas and grew up in West Monroe, La. He moved to New Orleans in the early '70s, and finally made his home in the city he loved, San Francisco, in 1974.

Jim's work as a travel agent took him to many exciting destinations, but the trips he most enjoyed were his twice-a-year visits to his family on his birthday and Christmas.

Jim is survived by his loving parents, Stanley and Bubbles Brooks of West Monroe; his devoted sister and brother-in-law, Della and Jerry Hillis; the twins, Philip and Phyllis; nephews; nieces; and many friends.

A special thanks to Dr. Michaela Glenn and the staff at Kaiser Hospital, and also to Jim's special friends who were with him during his final days.

A celebration of Jim's life will take place on Thursday, Feb. 29, at 6:30 p.m. at 76 Gough St. For information, please call Chuck at 415/567-6518. ▼

Bruce Flynn

Oct. 15, 1953 - Jan. 23, 1996

Bruce Flynn, 42, died January 23 at home in the company of his lover, Frank. AIDS had

wasted his body, but never conquered his loving spirit.

Bruce was a man of generous spirit and enormous appetites. He loved good food, beautiful buildings, interesting people, and San Francisco day and night. He was a gourmet cook, a soft touch for struggling artists, a discerning collector of fine furniture, and a show-no-mercy hearts and bridge player.

A city architect from 1980 to 1994, Bruce designed public facilities with a sensitivity to the surrounding environment and a love of San Francisco's eclectic charms. His final day of work warranted a proclamation from then Mayor Frank Jordan.

A member of the Central YMCA's Board of Managers from 1987 to 1991, Bruce was instrumental in developing the Y's long-term master plan.

Survivors also include his parents, Philip and Adeline Flynn; brother, Chris, all of Redding, Calif.; sisters, Donna of Sacramento and Karen Temple of Redmond, Wash.; and four nieces and nephews.

A memorial service is planned for 3 p.m. Sunday, Feb. 11, at the Miraloma Clubhouse, 350 O'Shaughnessy Blvd. The family suggests memorial contributions to the SF AIDS Foundation. ▼

R. Lewis Davis

Jan. 15, 1962 - Nov. 17, 1995

Lewis passed away from complications due to HIV/AIDS under the loving care of his family in Denver, Colo.

He lived and loved in San Francisco for most of his adult life, and affectionately called it "his city." He was here 13 years, and only spent the last two months with his family where he was well cared for.

A superb craftsperson, Lewis' feisty Saturnian/Capricorn nature enriched his life and those he shared his talents with. He was a true artisan, and we are sorry to see his eye for quality and knowledge of materials leave with his passing.

Lewis is survived by his mother, Vivian Smith; best friend, Blaize Teaman; a brother; sister; two nieces; and his lovely cats, Simon and Honey.

Lewis exuded a unique style, never wanting anyone to suspect him of bad taste or being unfashionable. He combined the best of Louis XIV with post-punk. His showy, sometimes brusque facade was a barrier to his highly sensitive and lovely heart. His insular nature allowed him to concentrate on arts and crafts, where he excelled. We will miss his magical charm and smiling eyes. ▼

Viral Load Test Lauded As Health 'Predictor'

by Ed Susman, UPI

A University of Pittsburgh associate professor of medicine said at the Third Conference on Opportunistic Infections in Washington a new bloodtest is a better measure of a patient's status than the current T-cell count predictor.

"Our findings demonstrate that HIV RNA levels measured by bDNA [branch DNA] can predict disease as far as ten years into the future," Dr. John Mellors, associate professor of medicine at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center said in his presentation Wednesday, January 31.

The bDNA test is also known as a viral burden or viral load test, because it measures the

amount of the virus in the blood. Manufactured by Chiron Diagnostics of Emeryville, it has become in a matter of months the preferred criteria for decisions on when to treat people with AIDS.

Jean-Paul Bonn, Chiron vice president, Europe, told United Press International, "Three months ago at the European AIDS meeting in Copenhagen there was almost no mention of viral load." Since then, he said, viral load has become the choice of doctors because it is proving more accurate than CD4 cell counts.

Earlier this month in Rome researchers came to a consensus agreement that viral load was a significant measure to predict disease progression. Although the

consensus did not eliminate T-cell count use, in practice, researchers use viral load determinants. In general, as viral load increases, the quicker patients will progress to immune deficiency diseases such as infections, cancers, and pneumonias.

In scores of scientific papers presented at the conference in Washington, the use of viral load is used to determine how well drugs are working in HIV-infected patients and how well the patients are doing themselves.

The manufacturers of the test said they expect to file for federal marketing approval within a few weeks. "We expect to file with the U.S. FDA very shortly."

Chiron and Roche Biomedical are competing to produce a test which will measure the volume of the virus in blood of patients. Both tests are used extensively in research.

Bonn said that the test now costs \$200, but he expects that the price could be lowered depending upon the demand and third-party reimbursement policies.

Viral load tests are at the center of debate in San Francisco because the HMO Kaiser Permanente refuses to pay for them. The board of supervisors is expected to discuss the matter in a meeting with the giant healthcare provider today. ▼

[See related stories, pages 1, 14, 15]

NoCal Company Launches Phase III Study of Pain Med

Business Wire

Neurex Corporation of Menlo Park, California announced Tuesday, January 16 that it had initiated its Phase II/III program with its drug SNX-111 to demonstrate safety and efficacy in the treatment of severe and intractable pain in patients with cancer or AIDS. SNX-111 is the only N-type neuron specific calcium blocker currently in clinical development.

The pivotal, double-blind, cross-over study, which includes a long-term treatment phase, will target 200 patients in over 30 centers in the United States. Initial results released in May of 1995, and subsequently reported at the American Pain Society conference in November, demonstrated significant reductions in pain for these very difficult to treat patients.

"Our investigators are clearly

very enthusiastic about the emerging profile of SNX-111," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Dr. Paul Goddard. "Results to date suggest that patients who are resistant or non-responsive to opioid therapy respond to SNX-111 therapy with significant reduction or elimination of pain symptoms. If this clinical profile is confirmed in the ongoing clinical program, SNX-111 would have an important role in the treatment of severe pain."

"More than one million patients suffer from cancer pain, a significant proportion of whom experience severe chronic symptoms."

SNX-111 arose from Neurex's own discovery efforts, and is being developed as a treatment for chronic pain in conjunction with Medtronic's implantable pump for direct administration into the fluid surrounding the spinal cord. ▼



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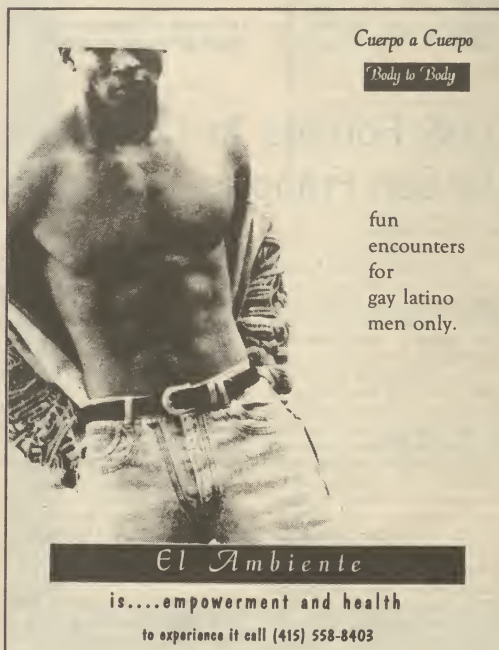
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JOHN CAMERON "L.B." WITHEROW MAY 21, 1957 - JANUARY 26, 1996

ON FRIDAY EVENING, JUST BEFORE MIDNIGHT, JOHN DIED PEACEFULLY AT HOME, OF COMPLICATIONS FROM AIDS, SURROUNDED BY HIS PARTNER OF SEVEN YEARS, KEVIN SIMS, NUMEROUS FRIENDS AND HIS FAITHFUL COCKER SPANIEL, KRISTLE. IN THE LAST MONTHS OF HIS LIFE, JOHN WAS LOVINGLY CARED FOR BY KEVIN, HIS DEVOTED PARENTS, CAMERON AND GLORIA WITHEROW OF HOUTZDALE, PENNSYLVANIA, NUMEROUS FRIENDS AND THE STAFF OF VISITING NURSES AND HOSPICE, WITH SPECIAL THANKS TO DON GILLESPIE AND DAN HURLEY FOR THEIR CARE AND ATTENTION WHEN JOHN NEEDED IT MOST.

JOHN WAS BORN IN HOUTZDALE AND LATER GRADUATED FROM PENN STATE IN 1980, HE MOVED TO SAN FRANCISCO, A CITY HE CHERISHED AS HOME. PROFESSIONALLY, JOHN WAS A GREAT ASSET TO ITEL CONTAINER DIVISION AND LATER TO VISA INTERNATIONAL AS DIRECTOR OF PURCHASING AND ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES. HE WAS RESPECTED BY HIS COLLEAGUES AND WILL BE MISSED BY MANY BUSINESS ASSOCIATES AND FRIENDS.

JOHN AND KEVIN SPENT MUCH OF THE LAST THREE YEARS, PAINSTAKINGLY REMODELING THEIR NOE VALLEY HOME, WITH THEIR OWN HANDS TRANSFORMING THE HOUSE AND YARD INTO A WARM AND LOVING SPACE. JOHN'S GENTLE, FUN-LOVING SPIRIT ENDEARED HIM TO MANY. HIS LARGE FAMILY OF FRIENDS, HERE AND AROUND THE COUNTRY, IS A TRIBUTE TO HIS WARMTH, GENEROSITY AND DEVOTION. JOHN WAS STRIKINGLY HANDSOME AND WILL BE FONDLY REMEMBERED FOR HIS WIT, CHARM AND THE TWINKLE IN THOSE BEAUTIFUL BLUE EYES.

JOHN IS SURVIVED BY HIS PARTNER AND COMPANION, KEVIN, HIS "DAUGHTER", KRISTLE, HIS PARENTS, CAMERON AND GLORIA WITHEROW, HIS BROTHER AND SISTER-IN-LAW, DON AND ANGIE WITHEROW OF DUBOIS, PA, GRANDMOTHER, PEARL HAMILTON OF PHILIPSBURG, PA, GRANDFATHER, NATHAN WITHEROW OF CURWENSVILLE, PA, NEPHEWS, BRIAN, BRADLEY, DAVID, AND DANIEL, AND NIECE, JENNETT. HE WILL ALSO BE TRULY MISSED BY HIS EXTENDED FAMILY HERE IN SAN FRANCISCO, WHOSE LIVES ARE RICHER AND BRIGHTER FOR HAVING COUNTED HIM AS A FRIEND.

A MEMORIAL SERVICE CELEBRATING JOHN'S LIFE WILL BE HELD SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4TH, 12NOON, AT THE AIDS MEMORIAL GROVE IN GOLDEN GATE PARK. FRIENDS WILL GATHER AFTER THE MEMORIAL AT JOHN AND KEVIN'S HOME, 114 28TH STREET (AT DOLORES). REMEMBRANCES IN JOHN'S NAME SHOULD BE MADE TO P.A.W.S.

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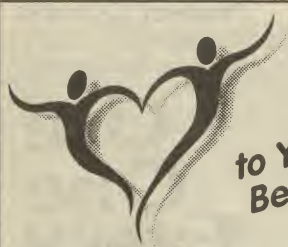
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NATIONAL NEWS

Schindler Fund Fights the Enemy Within the Military

by Mary Ann Swissler

Three more alleged violations of President Clinton's "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" regulations policing gays in the military will be argued before U.S. federal judges in February.

High-profile cases like these merely scratch the surface of the suspicions aimed at gay and lesbian servicemembers, according to Jean Podrasky, spokesperson at the Washington, D.C.-based Servicemembers Legal Defense Fund (SLDN). The group was co-founded by the grieving mother of U.S. Navy sailor Allen Schindler, who was beaten to death by his own shipmates in Japan.

"We are only dealing with a percentage of what goes on out there," said Podrasky, referring to the 150 cases that are still considered to be active.

The bulk of SLDN's work is in letting servicemembers know their legal rights, but she said the advertisements they place in military newspapers are equally important. Podrasky said that she knows the ads are effective, since most of the phone calls and letters into their Washington, D.C. office are from people who have seen the ad.

And, Podrasky said, unlike Schindler — who told his ship commander to no avail that his life



Dorothy Hadjys looks at the childhood photos of her slain son, Allen Schindler.

was in jeopardy — the military has said that servicemembers who report threats on their lives will be rescued. "We can now call the Pentagon and helicopter someone out of a dangerous situation," she said.

During the first year SLDN processed over 300 cases, with another 300 the second year, she said. There were ten death threats that first year, 340 violations of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, 62 cases of physical or emotional harassment, and 15 out-and-out witch hunts.

"We get at least one new case every day," she said. "If we go a couple of days without hearing from a new [servicemember], we'll get three on Friday."

Podrasky said that they are usually called only as a last resort. "People put up with a lot," she said.

SLDN provides preliminary legal advice and steers them towards legal representation by one of the 250 lawyers in their nationwide network, many times with a resolution that leaves both sides happy. "Some of our cases are counseling calls, and they just want basic advice. [People ask,]

"I'm going into the military, what should I do?"

Or, she said, they want to return to civilian life. "They want to come out. They write a letter stating that they are gay, specified to their case, stating why they are coming out [whether due to integrity or harassment].

"And they get an honorable discharge, and it's a success story."

Other cases involve "witch hunts," where an accused person will be asked if there are other queers on base. Although witch hunts are barred under the military's official policy, "it happens all the time," according to Podrasky. So far, she said, all 15 reported witch hunts have been stopped.

A third type of case that comes before SLDN are the very few instances where same-sex lovers are caught in the act.

In addition to donations from the public, SLDN has also been supported by The Legacy Foundation, The Geffen Foundation, and The Gill Foundation. ▼

**For more information call
(202) 328-3244 or write to:**

Task Forcers To Come To San Francisco in April

by Mike Salinas

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has announced that its fifth annual "Out and Equal in the 90's" conference will be held this spring in San Francisco, April 20-21.

The emphasis of the conference, as in years past, will be on workplace issues of concern to lesbians and gay men. Hundreds of labor organizers, human resource executives, and representatives from gay employee groups are expected to attend, to discuss such subjects as using labor resources to fight the right; obtaining domestic partner benefits; forming gay employee groups and linking with other such groups; HIV in the workplace; and others.

A pre-conference event will be held specifically for human re-

source professionals Friday, April 19.

The program is still being designed, according to the NGLTF conference hotline. People who are interested in exhibiting or presenting as a workshop leader may call for a request for proposal.

The deadline for early registration is March 1.

The "Out and Equal" workplace conference is one of two annual caucuses hosted by NGLTF. The group will hold its larger "Creating Change Conference" in November, immediately following the presidential election. That three-day event will take place in Alexandria, Virginia. ▼

**For further information, call
the NGLTF hotline at (202)
332-6483, extension 3444.**

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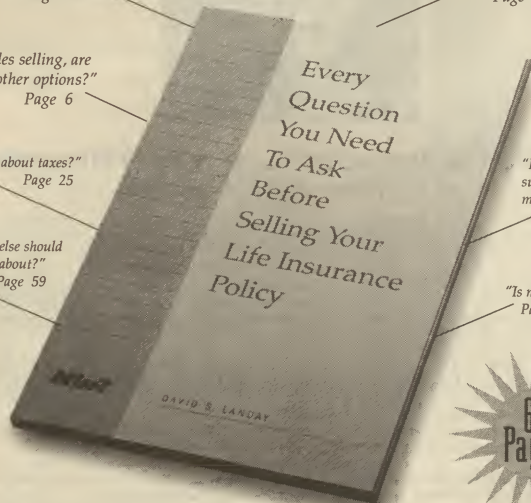
"Will selling my Insurance Policy cut into my Social Security or other benefits?"
Page 27

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Page 14

"Besides selling, are there other options?"
Page 6

"What about taxes?"
Page 25

"What else should I think about?"
Page 59



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Page 45

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Acremant Pleads Not Guilty To Murder of Oregon Lesbians

by Mary Ann Swissler

Nearly two months after the gruesome murders of two of Oregon's more respected and beloved lesbian activists, the confessed killer Robert Acremant turned in a plea of not guilty in a Jackson County courthouse.

While the 27-year-old Acremant immediately admitted after his December 13 arrest that he killed Michelle Abdill and Roxanne Ellis on December 4, and made a statement that their lesbianism "made it easier" for him to shoot them; his plea of not guilty on January 25 was normal for a capital crime of this magnitude, according to Sergeant Tim George of the Medford, Oregon Police Department. "Everything went as expected," he said.

A trial date has not yet been set, added George. Acremant could easily face the death penalty if he is found guilty of just one of the aggravated murder charges against him, according to George.

Acremant's court-appointed attorney is now expected to file discovery motions to prepare its defense.

Meanwhile, the Medford police department is still involved in the case, George said. "We're dotting our i's and crossing our t's,



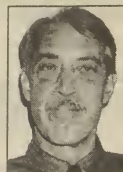
Roxanne Ellis and Michelle Abdill.

and following up on anything the DA's office deems necessary. Everything is going to be done to make sure it's complete and that we're ready for trial."

Acremant, who said from his jail cell that he wanted to die of lethal injection, is also charged

with two counts of kidnapping and a single count of robbery in the incident. He also faces murder charges for the shooting death of 22-year-old Scott George in Visalia, California. Officials have stated they will work together on these cases. ▼

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Sugar Daddy Gone Crazy

by Michael C. Botkin

When I heard that John DuPont, heir to the immense DuPont family fortune, had shot a 36-year-old male wrestler to death on his estate, my first thought was "sugar daddy gone crazy." I then waited for the papers to come out so I could hunt down the details which would either confirm this suspicion or lay it to rest. However, after reading three days of coverage on this convoluted case, I have yet to encounter any of the information one needs. In particular there has been no suggestion, nay not even any speculation, as to the motive for the shooting.

Instead, there has been a lot of attention to other fascinating aspects of the case, like the long,

slow easy approach to Mr. DuPont, who roamed through his manse unmolested for 48 hours, talking to the police on a cell phone. It's not clear why the cops used such kid gloves. The fact that their perpetrator was a DuPont no doubt helped. Also, the fact that he was a volunteer member of the local force and let them use his shooting range may have influenced their leniency.

Of course, it could have been simple caution. DuPont has a reputation as something of a gun nut, and was known to pack a considerable arsenal on his estate. He even has an armored personnel carrier, which is certainly a cut above the illicit assault rifles most murderous gun nuts harbor. So their slow approach could have been due to fear as much as to re-

spect for his position in society.

Fortunately for them, Mr. DuPont appears pretty loopy. They turned off the heat in his mansion (which certainly means they had access to it and could have, if they wished, put much tighter controls on DuPont). Eventually, getting cold, DuPont went out to the garage to relight his boiler and was promptly jumped by the SWAT team and arrested.

All very interesting, no doubt, but it doesn't address the central question as to why DuPont shot Dave Schultz. This glaring absence is accompanied by a subtle lack of information which makes it impossible for even such a talented between-the-lines reader like myself to either confirm or deny my original diagnosis: "sugar daddy gone crazy."

Cringing lickspittles

The local dailies, reprinting articles from the national wire services, do kind of hint that DuPont simply cracked up, went paranoid crazy. He was running "Team Foxfire," a kind of private sports camp where he trained various hunks for Olympic wrestling, giving them free lodging, access to his excellent facilities, and sizable stipends. His lavishness with his private team had caused some talk beforehand; his tendency to fly them to meet in his helicopter or to fly them hither and yon first class seemed a little overgenerous.

In any case, over the last few weeks as he slipped further and further into insanity, his position as patron served to insulate him from possible intervention — or help. If Big Daddy is taken away by the men in white coats, who will pay the stipend, who will fly us all everywhere? So when DuPont started talking about ghosts coming out of the wall or of possible attempts on his life by the Symbionese Liberation Army, his lickspittles simply cringed and ignored it.

DuPont's maintenance of a stable of hunks certainly isn't inconsistent with the sugar-daddy hypothesis. It was also too salient to be left out of the story. But it is far from conclusive. He could have been a closet case, unaware of his own attraction to his kept athletes. At the very least, it adds a "closet-case" hypothesis to the "sugar-daddy" one.

The information about his victim doesn't help much. He was 36 and trying to make it to the next Olympics. This would make him the oldest wrestler on the team by a long shot. Sports tend to be a young man's game, and Schultz was at an age when he should have been retrofitting as a trainer, not trying to go for medals like a young pup. So he may have had a few unrealistic urges of his own which made him sympathetic to DuPont's sock-sniffing.

He was also married, and living on the estate with his wife and two kids. This puts a slight damper on the "sugar-daddy" hypothesis, but not much. If DuPont had a wife, it would mean more. As it turns out — and this was mentioned only in passing — DuPont had a brief and "disastrous" marriage last year. This tends to support the "daddy" hypothesis.

But it was clear that Schultz was DuPont's favorite and one of the only people on the estate who would challenge DuPont when he made bizarre statements. The fact that DuPont shot his favorite tends to support the "daddy" hypothesis, though it would help if we could learn a little bit about what led up to the shooting.

Hiding something

But after reading three long articles in the *New York Times*, totaling over 6,000 words (in other words, quite long for that paper), I found I had surprisingly little information on that salient point. It was reported that Schultz was shot three times, and that this was seen by three witnesses. But nothing was said about who those witnesses were or what else they may have seen. In a later article, it was revealed that Schultz's wife was one of the witnesses, but still nothing was said about the final scene that led to the shooting.

After the shooting several people fled the mansion, apparently unmolested by DuPont, who didn't think to take hostages. And although the police talked hourly with DuPont, there was no information given as to what he talked about.

So I am forced to conclude that it is impossible to prove or disprove the "sugar daddy gone crazy" hypothesis from what the papers tell us. But the fact that the papers tell us so little certainly tends to support it. They're definitely hiding something; the only question is what.

It can't be that he's crazy, since they've admitted that and, in any case, it would have been too difficult to hide. Homosexuality seems a dark enough secret that the DuPonts would want it squelched. And, at least so far, it has been possible to keep it squelched. Or at least to keep something squelched.

So at this point I consider the "sugar daddy gone crazy" hypothesis to be the likeliest explanation of what went down. Probably DuPont was having some sort of general breakdown that sparked the actual shooting, but it was most likely played out on the backdrop of homosexual longing, either explicit or implicit. The fact that the papers don't give the information can probably be attributed to fear of the DuPonts.

We'll see if more info comes out as the trial progresses. I wouldn't count on it. The closet is a luxury that only the richest and most powerful can afford, but DuPont is one of the richest men in the nation. This would probably have allowed him to get away with murder, if he'd been together enough to do it more privately. Alas, the shooting was too public to be hidden, so he can't deny he did it. But he can still deny that he's a homosexual, and the DuPont fortune is powerful enough that even the *New York Times* has to respect it. And so the careful watchers from the sidelines are reduced to guesswork. But my best guess is: sugar daddy gone crazy. ▼

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Episcopal

Continued from page 16

Stanton charges liberals with being "arrogant and non-inclusive" in "using fairly vitriolic language to describe their opponents."

"They have never gotten their way, not in 20 years," he said, "but they know better than anybody else and they are acting on their own."

Objectively Stupid

Byham pulls no punches when he describes the actions of his adversaries as "stupid."

"If you look at it with any degree of objectivity," he said, "that is the only conclusion you can reach."

The very act of seeking the trial came as a shock to many. The

only previous one had been in 1924 when a retired bishop of Arkansas "converted" and began preaching that communism had superseded Christianity.

The Episcopal Church "tends to work these issues out through the elective process of conventions," says Franklin. "What this conservative group has done is try to preempt that by forcing a trial, which is not in our tradition." He sees "old-line Episcopalians reacting negatively because they see it as not Episcopalian."

Perhaps the issue will be sorted out somewhat on February 27 when the Court meets in Wilmington, Delaware. Six hours of argument are scheduled on Church doctrine. If the body finds that there is in fact a prohibition on ordination of "practicing homosexuals," then Righter will go to trial on May 13. ▼

LEGAL NOTICES

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974133

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of LUIS ESTRELLA ORTANZ for change of name. The application of LUIS ESTRELLA ORTANZ for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that LUIS ESTRELLA ORTANZ has filed an application proposing the name be changed to STELLA ESTRELLA ORTANZ. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 5th day of February, 1996, at 9:00 o'clock a.m., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 28th day of December, 1995.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201615

The following person(s) are doing business as WISEWOMAN CHILDREN'S TRADITIONS, 526 Liberty St., San Francisco, CA 94114; MARIA A. IORILLO, 526 Liberty St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 1, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MARIA A. IORILLO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 22, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201445

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) STYLE, 2) STYLE COMMUNICATIONS, 402 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114; DEBORAH L. CLIFFORD, 402 Sanchez St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DEBORAH L. CLIFFORD. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 16, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201627

The following person(s) are doing business as FLOWER POWER MARKET, 2264 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114; RICHARD MARK CUNNINGHAM, 19 Forest Side Ave., San Francisco, CA 94127. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 22, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RICHARD M. CUNNINGHAM. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 22, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201519

The following person(s) are doing business as BERNAL HEIGHTS ACUPUNCTURE & YOGA, 28 1/2 Precita Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110; YOHANA KNOBLOCH, 28 1/2 Precita Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 18, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed YOHANA KNOBLOCH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 18, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201180

The following person(s) are doing business as BODYFORCE, 15 Seadrift Landing, Tiburon, CA 94920; SCOTT CAMERON BROWN, Seadrift Landing, Tiburon, CA 94920. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 04, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed SCOTT CAMERON BROWN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 4, 1996.

Jan 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 15, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201432

The following person(s) are doing business as LITTLE DOG PRODUCTIONS, 651 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114; DAN ALBERTSON, 651 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 12, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAN ALBERTSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 12, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201375

The following person(s) are doing business as MASONIC CLEANERS, 15 Masonic Ave., San Francisco, CA 94118; AMY AUYEUNG, 49 Concord St., San Francisco, CA 94112. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 11, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed AMY AUYEUNG. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 11, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201251

The following person(s) are doing business as SON MULTI SERVICES, 509 O'Farrell, San Francisco, CA 94102; JOHN SIUNH SON, 8622 Cottonwood Lane, Stockton, CA 95210. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 5, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JOHN S. SON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 05, 1996.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201194

The following person(s) are doing business as MANIFOLD INFORMATION DESIGN, 1844 Page Street, #8, San Francisco, CA 94117; DAVID AVILLA SILVA, 1844 Page Street, #8, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 2, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID SILVA. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 04, 1996.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 1996.

STATEMENT OF ABANDONMENT OF FICTITIOUS BUSINESS STATEMENT FILE NO. 171039

The following person has abandoned the use of the fictitious business name known as AMBASSADOR HOTEL, at 55 Mason Street, San Francisco, CA 94102.

The fictitious name referred to above was filed in the County of San Francisco on: Feb. 9, 1993.

Name and address of registrant: HENRY WILSON, 1651 Market Street, #303, San Francisco, CA 94103. This business was conducted by a individual.

Signed: HENRY WILSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of San Francisco County on the date Dec. 7, 1995 Gregory J. Diaz, County Clerk-Recorder, by Joanne Huynh.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201553

The following person(s) are doing business as BACH PERSONNEL, 2358 Market St., San Francisco, CA 94114; DAVID M. BACH, 30 Romaine, SF, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 10, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed DAVID BACH. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 10, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 04, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201412

The following person(s) are doing business as LOGOMAN, 340 Hayes Street, #206, San Francisco, CA 94102; JEFFREY K. WHITTEN, 340 Hayes Street, #206, San Francisco, CA 94102. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JEFFREY K. WHITTEN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 12, 1996.

Jan 18, 25, 1996, Feb 01, 08, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201791

The following person(s) are doing business as TERRY KETLER PRODUCTIONS, 3245 Clay Street, #4, San Francisco, CA 94115; TERRY KETLER, 3245 Clay Street, #4, San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 29, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed TERRY KETLER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 29, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201298

The following person(s) are doing business as THE LIGHTING GROUP, 200 Pine Street, #200, San Francisco, CA 94104; EXPERT LIGHT, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 200 Pine Street, #200, San Francisco, CA 94104. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of April 1, 1995. This business is conducted by a general partnership. Signed MICHAEL KARASIK, TREASURER. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 12, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201718

The following person(s) are doing business as MC KENZIE GRAPHICS, 110 Sutter Street, Suite 312, San Francisco, CA 94104; LANA FAYE KURTZ, 120 West 3rd Avenue, #303, San Mateo, CA 94402. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 25, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed LANA KURTZ. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 25, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201168

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) RI RA, 2) RE RA, 3) THE MEAN FIDDLER, 579 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105; GRACE O'MALLEY'S LTD., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 579 Howard Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 3, 1996. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed COLETTE O'BIRNE, SEC. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 3, 1996.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201785

The following person(s) are doing business as 1) W.M.S. EXPRESS, 2) WESTERN ATTORNEY SERVICES, 3) TRANS BAY EXPRESS, 75 Columbia Square, San Francisco, CA 94103-15; WESTERN MESSENGER SERVICE, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 75 Columbia Square, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Aug. 20, 1979. This business is conducted by a corporation. Signed RAYMOND R. CROSETTI, VICE-PRESIDENT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 26, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO. 974227

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the matter of the application of ABEL HENRY ESCALONA for change of name. The application of ABEL HENRY ESCALONA for change of name, having been filed in Court, and it appearing from said application that ABEL HENRY ESCALONA has filed an application proposing the name be changed to ABEL VALDIVIA. Now, therefore, it is hereby ordered and directed, that all persons interested in said matter do appear before the Court in Department, X-4 on the 25 day of February, at 9:00 o'clock a.m., of said day to show cause why the application for change of name should not be granted. It is further ordered that a copy of the Order be published in the THE BAY AREA REPORTER a newspaper of general circulation, printed in said county, at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the day of said hearing. Dated this 11th day of January, 1996.

Feb 1, 8, 15, 22, 1996.

B.A.R. CLASSIFIEDS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201748

The following person(s) are doing business as GIBSON LINES LLC, 1905 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA 94115; GIBSON LINE LLC, A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION, 1905 Pierce Street, San Francisco, CA 94115. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan. 1, 1995. This business is conducted by a limited liability company. Signed DONALD B. GIBSON. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 25, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 200819

The following person(s) are doing business as PC RAPPORT, 4304 18th Street, #14291, San Francisco, CA 94114; JEFFREY RAPPORT, 4304 18th Street, #14291, San Francisco, CA 94114. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JEFFREY RAPPORT. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Dec. 18, 1995.

Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

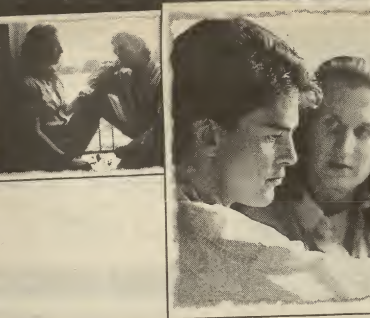


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LEGAL NOTICES

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201248
The following person(s) are doing business as NIKO NIKO TRAVEL, 1169 Market Street, #291, San Francisco, CA 94103: MIKAKO MATSUO, 1169 Market Street #291, San Francisco, CA 94103. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 5, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed MIKAKO MATSUO. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 05, 1996. Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201171
The following person(s) are doing business as 1 PERFORMIS, 598 Vermont Street, San Francisco, CA 94107: RONALD L. GREENSTEIN, 600 Alameda, El Cerrito, CA 94530. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of Jan 3, 1996. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed RONALD L. GREENSTEIN. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 3, 1996. Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT FILE NO. 201224
The following person(s) are doing business as WASH TIME, 2001 Balboa Street, San Francisco, CA 94121: JOHN S. KRAUS, 645 Haight Street, #10, San Francisco, CA 94117. Registrant(s) commenced business under the above fictitious business name on the date of N/A. This business is conducted by an individual. Signed JOHN S. KRAUS. This statement was filed with the County Clerk of the City and County of San Francisco, CA on Jan 05, 1996. Jan 11, 18, 25, 1996, Feb 1, 1996.

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LEGAL NOTICES

**FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME
STATEMENT FILE NO. 201628**
The following person(s) are doing busi-
ness as FENETI, 1295 Hampshire Street,
#6, San Francisco, CA 94110: RONALD
D. CORDOVA, 1295 Hampshire Street,
#6, San Francisco, CA 94110.
Registrant(s) commenced business under
the above fictitious business name on the
date of N/A. This business is conducted
by an individual. Signed RONALD D.
CORDOVA. This statement was filed with
the County Clerk of the City and County of
San Francisco, CA on Jan 22, 1996.

Feb 01, 08, 15, 22, 1996.

**ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR
CHANGE OF NAME FILE NO.
975693**

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE
STATE OF CALIFORNIA AND FOR THE
COUNTY OF SAN FRANCISCO, in the
matter of the application of BRADLEY
GREG WALONICK for change of name.
The application of BRADLEY GREG
WALONICK for change of name, having
been filed in Court, and it appearing from
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herby ordered and directed, that all per-
sons interested in said matter do appear
before the Court in Department, X-4 on the
12 day of March, at 9:00 o'clock am., of
said day to show cause why the application
for change of name should not be granted.
It is further ordered that a copy of the Order
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John Epperson, the Fabulous Lypsinka, in His Own Words

by Robert Julian

John Epperson is snowed in. New York City is covered with a fresh layer of white, and Epperson is laying plans for his upcoming escape to Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint. For two months, Epperson's ultimate diva, Lypsinka, will be holding court in a new show: *Lypsinka Must Be Destroyed!* — *The First Farewell*. Over the telephone, I lament the demise foretold by the title and Epperson explains.

John Epperson: One has to ponder what one is doing at a certain point. I don't want to be 50 and still doing Lypsinka. This is to let the public know that I'm looking to move in a new direction.

Bay Area Reporter: Will that direction eventually require killing the goose that laid the golden egg?

JE: I doubt that will ever happen completely. I can imagine AmFAR calling me when I'm 60 and asking me to do a benefit. Maybe Lady Bunny and I will still be doing gigs together.

B.A.R.: How is this show different from your previous ones?

JE: It's still the same format. It can't vary too much because the stage at Josie's is limited. But it has an ever more elaborate soundtrack. I can do that without worrying about the stage. This show is different in that I'm having hand puppets made which my dresser will be handling. I wanted it to look like a demented Shari Lewis show. Apparently Lamb Chop does all the hard negotiating for Shari. When the going gets tough, she puts on the hand puppet, and Lamb Chop does all the dirty work.

Continued on page 37

Loose Lips, Slinky Slips

Citizen Chameleon

Roxie Hosts U.S. Premiere of New Documentary About Welles

by Gary Morris

started at the top," Orson Welles used to say, "and worked my way down." The "top" was directing the seminal *Citizen Kane* (1941) while still in his 20s. "Down" was everything that came after. Or so goes the story.

Welles' largely self-created legend follows a common trajectory for enterprising *enfants terribles*. Early promise (acting for John Houseman at age 16) leads to dazzling rebellion (the infamous *War of the Worlds* broadcast at age 23), followed by major and widely-acknowledged achievement (*Kane*), and, finally, a slow slide into perversity, self-parody and obscurity. Vassili Silovic's illuminating new documentary, *Orson Welles: The One-Man Band*, shows us that this was far from true. The director's last two decades were much more substantial than the trivialities many of us remember — commercials for Paul

Continued on page 39



Photo: Steven Winder Brooks

PHOTOGRAPHY

John Karr
gets to the
bottom of
Beaton

page 42



THEATRE

A.C.T.'s
'Tempest':
less than the
sum of its parts

page 36

BOOKS


Erin Blackwell
on 'Paris
Was a Woman'

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by Pithy Galore
and Polly Popular

Polly Popular reports back from the virtually snow-bound Sundance Film Festival: Yes, there were lots of queer movies, and yes it sounds like most of them will show up in SF, either in commercial release or at the Lesbian & Gay Film Festival. The Bay Area film community was out in force at Park City, especially the queers. Like the cliffhanger, full-cast wedding reception at the end of an episode of *Dallas*, everyone was in the audience at Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman's Wednesday night *Celluloid Closet* screening.

The stellar cast included: *LA Frontiers* writer Lydia Marcus, hot off a rare interview with Olivia Newton-John, who was at Sundance with *It's My Party*; former *SF Weekly* film critic Elizabeth Pincus, who had just spent the evening chatting with Michael Stipe, at Sundance with Chris Munch's *Color of a Brisk and Leaping Day*; and former Frameliners Nancy Fishman and Jenni Olson, among others.

Michael Lumpkin, *Closet* coproducer and current Frameline head, was already on his way home, but was graciously acknowledged for his massive accomplishment in tracking down the film's archival footage. Film Arts Foundation helmer Gail Silva watched the whole film unaware that she was seated directly behind the most glamorous member of the audience, k.d. lang, whose "My Secret Love" runs over the film's closing credits.

Prolific SF filmmaker Barbara Hammer provided the evening's most incisive inquiry at the post-film Q&A when she asked Epstein why they hadn't offered more thorough coverage of the gay and lesbian community response to such films as *Cruising* and *Basic Instinct*. Epstein's disingenuous response (from the maker of *The Times of Harvey Milk*, one of the most well-researched documentaries ever made) was that they couldn't find enough material on the subject. (Like months and months of *Cruising* protest coverage everywhere from *The New York Times* to the *Iowa Gay News*?)

Surprisingly not an audience favorite (it was shown six times), *The Celluloid Closet* ended up winning the "Freedom of Expression" award. "AKA the Blow Job Award," quipped one former Sundance Award-winner.

The explosion in queer visibility was Topic A in New York last week. The *New York Times* ran a piece about all the gay marriages on TV and the relatively minuscule controversy they aroused: Even with two stations dropping the *Friends* lesbian wedding episode, it still beat out *Seinfeld* for the No. 1 slot in the Nielsen ratings the week

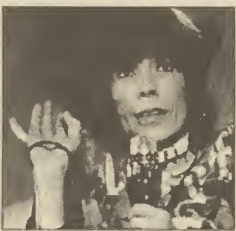


A 1969 photo of Candy Darling and Andy Warhol by Cecil Beaton.

before.

Over at the city's weekly *NY Press*, the cover story was titled "Queer Nation (It's Coming Soon)." The straight author's theory is that there are congenial and environmental queers and that the proliferation of the latter is related to population density. He posits that "Vatican-encouraged unchecked population growth" will soon "make all of Manhattan as queer as Liberace." (For a while we weren't sure whether the author was really straight, but if he thinks of Liberace as the protohomo, he must be.)

The *Village Voice*'s Michael Musto had the juiciest dish, of course, celebrated author Armistead Maupin raking actor-comedian Lily Tomlin over the coals for being so closeted. Tomlin and Maupin are connected with the film of Vito Russo's *The Celluloid Closet*.



Lily Tomlin

"She's been pulling this shit for years. She plays gay for large gay audiences and the rest of the time remains conspicuously silent," Musto quotes Maupin as saying. "I'm tired of hearing apologies from people saying, 'Well, she's done so much for gay people.' ... [H]er silence about her own sexuality undermines all of her good work and it reinforces the notion that homosexuality is something to be tolerated but never discussed."

Maupin says he feels "profoundly disappointed and slightly used" because he participated in *The Celluloid Closet* partly because he was led to believe that Tomlin would use the film's release as a platform for coming out fully. But Tomlin then backed down. The author of *Tales of the City* makes clear he's not mad at the film ("I love it. It's *That's Entertainment* with teeth") or its directors (Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman) but at the star herself.

As for Mr. Maupin, we hope that his outburst doesn't hurt him too much in Hollywood, though he's probably mixed any chance for future collaborations with Jodie Foster or Joel Schumacher.

Those who enjoyed Kevin Bacon's turn as an adult fag in *JFK* will want to check-out his performance as a teenage hustler in the 1982 *Forty Deuce*. Bacon starred in Paul Morrissey's film (based on the Alan Bowne play) before his breakthrough role in *Diner*. The

cast includes Orson Bean as a goofy john on whom Bacon tries to pin a murder rap. The second half of *Deuce* features a captivating use of split-screen CinemaScope.

In NY, *Deuce* was part of a Morrissey retrospective that included the rarely-seen *Women in Revolt* (1971), in which Warhol superstars Candy Darling, Jackie Curtis and Holly Woodlawn play — in their own inimitable fashion — strident lesbian feminists. (At the time, Morrissey said he gave the transgendered trio the roles because "Girls are just blasé. They're like boys today.") We hear rumors that the Castro's Anita Monga is angling to bring all or part of the Morrissey tribute here — somebody ought to (even though Mr. Maupin might harry PM about his coy posturing over the years).

Speaking of down-and-out lesbian feminists (the gals in *Revolt*, not Monga), a B.A.R. operative caught a New York screening of Mary Herron's *I Shot Andy Warhol*, the story of Valerie Solanas, who attempted to kill the artist in 1968. Our operative says Lili Taylor (*The Addiction*, *Mrs. Parker and the Vicious Circle*) is great, but the movie (which opens this spring) doesn't get inside Solanas' head as much as it might.

Half-Naked Boy Alert: Ridley Scott's *White Squall* tells the tale of some mildly screwed-up high

school seniors who go on a "make-a-man-out-of-them" cruise headed by captain Jeff Bridges. And what a long cliché-ridden voyage they take, though we know this won't bother a certain type of Out There reader (and you know who you are), what with all the shirtless, perky-nippled teenagers in the cast. Though Scott doesn't work the innate sexiness-of-youth angle to excess, there are points at which it does seem as if the boys have enrolled in Falcon Preschool (and don't you wish your parents had sent you there?).

Luscious, resolute Scott Wolf is going to get tired of people saying he resembles the young Tom Cruise, but he does. The rest of his shipmates may not bring to mind other teen idols, though a couple could be budding starlets themselves. But they'd better hurry: Just six years after *Lord of the Flies*, Balthazar Getty looks positively haggard compared to his comely compatriots.

Enough of this movie babble. Some of us at Out There prefer to spend our time reading books, as does tennis champ Martina Navratilova, who of late has been trying to write them. Sadly, her first literary effort, the 1994 mystery *The Total Zone*, did little to advance the cause of literature. Upon its arrival in the hands of unsuspecting readers, the sound of stomachs turning could be

Continued on page 39

“

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The Love Boat: the cast of *White Squall*.

A.C.T.'s *The Tempest* Mostly Hot Air Hopelessly Hindered

by Chad Jones

Blow hard, blow fast, blow me down are all phrases that come to mind when the curtain rises on the American Conservatory Theater's production of Shakespeare's *The Tempest* at the newly renovated and spectacularly beautiful Geary Theater. As the play's title indicates, there's a storm a-brewin', and it is an ill wind that blows no good. As the gales buffet the sails of a ship about to wreck in the play's first scene, thunder claps and lightning flashes while Shakespeare's words are projected onto the sails. The first one says, "Blow," and that, in a nutshell, pretty much describes this entire blustery production.

Aesthetically vapid, artistically uninhabited and only occasionally engaging, this *Tempest*, as directed by A.C.T.'s Artistic Director

Carey Perloff, is the kind of dull, pompous Shakespearean production that gives the Bard a bad name. There is no reason *The Tempest*, one of Shakespeare's most enchanting and challenging plays, should be this hollow. The story of Prospero, the rightful Duke of Milan who, along with his daughter Miranda, has been exiled to a remote island, is full of wonder, fortitude, forgiveness and, best of all, magic. Therein lies the heart of this production's malaise: Perloff and her design team forgot the magic.

Kate Edmunds's simple, white paper set is an empty canvas on which should be painted a glorious extravaganza as the play unfolds, but alas, the whiteness is filled with precious little color and intrusive, sporadically intriguing shadows designed by Larry Reed. The set does not effectively create the mysterious world of Prospero's island. In fact, the whole thing looks like the set for a cheesy music video. We are never allowed to understand what the space is supposed to represent. Is it an exhibition space for magical displays? A bells-and-whistles design showcase? A glorified movie screen? There are so many questions that the whole design concept loses any hope of forging dramatic integrity.

Aside from being void of concept, the set is just plain unattractive. *The Tempest* cries out for sumptuous decadence in its de-

sign. The play should move people by its sheer beauty, both in its language and design. When a multipurpose catwalk descends from the fly space, what should be a nifty set surprise turns out to resemble a cast-off from *The Love Boat*. Not much magic or beauty in that.

Like the set, the original musical score by Michael Lang, performed by the Kronos Quartet, is spare and intellectual where it should be gorgeous and captivating.

Fabulous fairy

Within this uninspired and unfocused world, Perloff is unable to guide her cast into anything more than an uneven assortment of performances. Movie actor David Strathairn (so good in *The River Wild*, *Dolores Claiborne* and *Home for the Holidays*) cuts a handsome figure as Prospero, but he lacks the vocal dynamism this magical, mysterious creature demands. In the blissfully unimpaired Geary, where the people in the second balcony struggle to catch every word, the actors need to project like Thespians in the days of yore. Strathairn is not up to this particular challenge. During Prospero's many monologues, his delivery is strained and unvaried, which robs Shakespeare's sumptuous poetry of its due.

The enigmatic David Patrick Kelly as Ariel, Prospero's fairy servant, manages one of the evening's most intriguing performances. Nearly upstaged by the enormous, slender feather springing from his cap, Kelly imbues Ariel with a vibrant pathos and a mischievous pizzazz that lights up the stage whenever he breezes through.

The two keystone performances of this production — though not necessarily of the play — are given by Michael Tucker (L.A. *Law*'s Stuart Markowitz) as Trinculo the jester and local comic genius Geoff Hoyle as Stephano, the drunken butler. Played broadly and milked for every laugh, Hoyle and Tucker create a shipwrecked and delightfully deluded comic

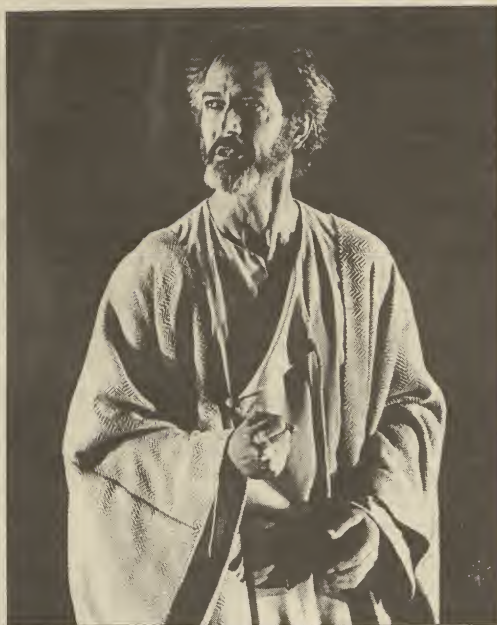


Photo: Ken Friedman

David Strathairn as Prospero in A.C.T.'s *The Tempest*.

duo that nearly salvages the disaster the rest of the production threatens to become whenever they are offstage.

Hardly funny

But *The Tempest* is not really a comedy. The heart of the play is the righting of wrongs that Prospero and his daughter have suffered in their exile. When Prospero conjures a storm that shipwrecks all the major players in his life's drama on his little island, the stage is quite literally set for revenge or redemption. Shakespeare takes the high ground and Prospero ultimately forgives and spares his wrongdoers, while his daughter (Vera Farmiga, whose mouth is always agape) is rewarded with a marriage to the handsome young prince of Naples (Daniel Cantor). It's basically a 12-step forgiveness festival written long before those annoying words came into usage. When Perloff approaches the play's end and deals her last big director's

card, the results are extremely disappointing. What should be a liberating, transporting moment is merely more of what we've seen for the previous three hours, which is to say, not much.

The Tempest is an extremely difficult play to stage effectively because its tone shifts are of such a highly delicate nature. Perloff and her team have gone the route of stage and artistic emptiness when what is called for is richness, sensuality and emotion. The Geary Theater glitters with palpable potential that will have to be realized in future productions. Perhaps someday some crazy director will eschew convention, build an enormous oddball set and actually stage *The Tempest* in a teapot. Now that'd be something to see. ▼

The American Conservatory Theater's *The Tempest* continues at the Geary Theater through February 18. Call 749-2228 for information.

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Rising Star

The fabulous James Lecesne has once again blessed us with his presence and his wondrous solo show *Word of Mouth*, which is playing at the Bayfront Theatre through February 18. The runaway hit of last year's Solo Mio Festival, Lecesne (pronounced as if you were a hip French person into *le scene*) is the kind of performer about whom you'll be able to casually remark during a future Oscar party, "Oh, that James ... I remember seeing him when he was just starting out." Actually, Lecesne has already won an Oscar, just not technically. One of the characters in his show, Trevor, an indefatigable gay teen who lives and dies for Diana Ross, was transferred to the big screen and copped an Oscar for best short film last year. Unfortunately, the award goes to the producers, not the writer. But Hollywood be damned. We have him live on stage, and that's more than good enough for now. Before he's too big a star, rush down to the Bayfront and catch *Word of Mouth*, perhaps the most satisfying, funniest transcendental ghost story ever to play Fort Mason. Lecesne is a master as he morphs from a gay teen to a wizened old lady to a vibrant, spirit-channeling Brooklynite to a miracle-seeking Midwestern mom. With a nod to Lily Tomlin, who paved the way for shows like this, James Lecesne is a find: sweetly sentimental, sassy and smart. Catch him now before his star ascends. ▼

— Chad Jones



Epperson

Continued from cover

My last show came out of the very deepest darkest pit of a depression I was in, one that had been coming on for quite a long time. At the time I was recording the show in the studio, it was at its most violent. It lasted for almost a year, and it had been coming on for almost a year before that. That show was about facing the abyss, and this show is about what I've learned since going through that. But have no fear — this show is quite bleak and black, but also glamorous and hilarious. I have four new costumes and a new wig.

B.A.R.: When I reviewed your last show, I remarked that your last wig left you with an unfortunate resemblance to Kathie Lee Gifford.

JE: Oh, you wrote that! Well, this one looks like Howard Stern...just kidding! Actually, this one looks like a cross between Arlene Dahl and Ann Miller.

B.A.R.: Is it red or black?

JE: It's red, but you know how Ann Miller always wears that paisley silhouette on her head?

B.A.R.: Like Marilyn when she sang happy birthday to Kennedy?

JE: Yes. But my other wig — the one you described as Kathie Lee — will now be more like Ginger on *Gilligan's Island*. When my new wig is shipped back to New York for cleaning, I'll wear the old one.

B.A.R.: How often do you send it back?

JE: That depends on how funky it gets. In my two-month run at Josie's, I imagine I'll have to send it back once. I need my San Francisco fix, the audiences are so wonderful. Josie's is where I go to test the waters. This is the longest run anyone has ever done there. It's also the most ambitious show anyone's done there in terms of production values. My director, Kevin Malony, is coming out from New York for the opening, and my technical director, Dana Peter Porras, already lives in San Francisco. This show will be a world premiere.

B.A.R.: How do you know when you've been onstage too long? How can you tell when Lypsinka's stayed too long at the fair?

JE: The most an audience can take is about an hour. The last show was an hour and three minutes. This show may be about an hour and five minutes. The lipsynching illusion would wear thin any longer than that.

B.A.R.: I know you've done some runway work for major designers. Did you ever get any of their designer originals?

JE: This year I had a hotpants tower suit made by Badgley Mischka in New York. But when you're doing a stage show, sweating, dancing and working in the clothes every night, it's better to go to professional costume people because they have stronger stitches. As fabulous as a couture gown is, that's still a couture stitch. It would be possible to go to a Paris or 7th Avenue designer and then take them to an atelier who makes clothes for the theatre, but in career matters, I believe you shouldn't use up all your favors too soon.

B.A.R.: So whose favors are you keeping in your pocket?

JE: I'm not sure anyone owes me one, nor do I owe others. Thierry Mugler — who I've worked for as a model — well, his clothes are so

theatrical it would be great to have him design a whole show, but it would be best to wait until there's an enormous full-scale show, because designers charge a fee for these things.

B.A.R.: I heard Madonna was generous to you in some way.

JE: Madonna sprinkled her fairy dust on my head and said, "This is your gift, go out and use it as best as you possibly can."

B.A.R.: Just how much fairy dust did she sprinkle?

JE: That's our little secret. And I did not sign a gag order.

B.A.R.: Will your new show have more or less singing material than before?

JE: Probably less — on purpose — because if there's music, music requires dancing and the stage at Josie's isn't large enough for that. And I'm 40 years old; I don't want to dance like that seven days a week. It would be different if I could go offstage and take a whiff of oxygen like Ann Miller. And I sweat. I don't want to sweat on stage like that. In Los Angeles, with my last show, I was sweating like a pig for a month in a room with no air conditioning.

B.A.R.: I've written that everything you do has been done before by others, but you've created a startlingly original character that remains unique. How did this come about?

JE: When I started, I thought, if I'm going to do this, then it has to be done in a unique way. Yet it had to be rooted in a tradition. Years later, I found out that's what's called post-modernism. It took me a long time to find out what post-modernism was, but that's what I was doing. Of course now it's post post-modernism.

B.A.R.: Now it's deconstructivism.

JE: One of the reasons Lypsinka works is that the culture has changed and they're willing to accept someone lipsynching to a soundtrack. They can accept the distance between the performer and the material.

B.A.R.: What's the change in society that makes them willing to accept that?

JE: Technology has changed our culture. You can turn on television or go to the video store and just rent any movie you want. America's pop culture is constantly being recycled in a way you can go to a store and buy. Someone on stage lipsynching to a pre-recorded soundtrack is part of our heritage.

B.A.R.: As in post-synch sound in films?

JE: No, the material, not the action.

B.A.R.: In other words, the material has entered the lexicon of popular consciousness, so people can visit it like an old friend.

JE: Yes, but gay culture and new wave culture and post-modernist culture, and now deconstructivist culture, are all being co-opted by Hollywood. If they can make a movie about three drag queens or Ed Wood, a notoriously bad film director, or *Pee Wee's Playhouse* — that's East Village '80s culture that's been co-opted by the popular culture. Little by little, I've seen Hollywood and the entertainment community buy into it. Unfortunately, it gets watered down. Unlike my new show, which has some pretty racy things in it.

B.A.R.: Is it new material or borrowed from another medium?

JE: Borrowed. Lypsinka masturbates on stage, and also has alienated sex with the devil.

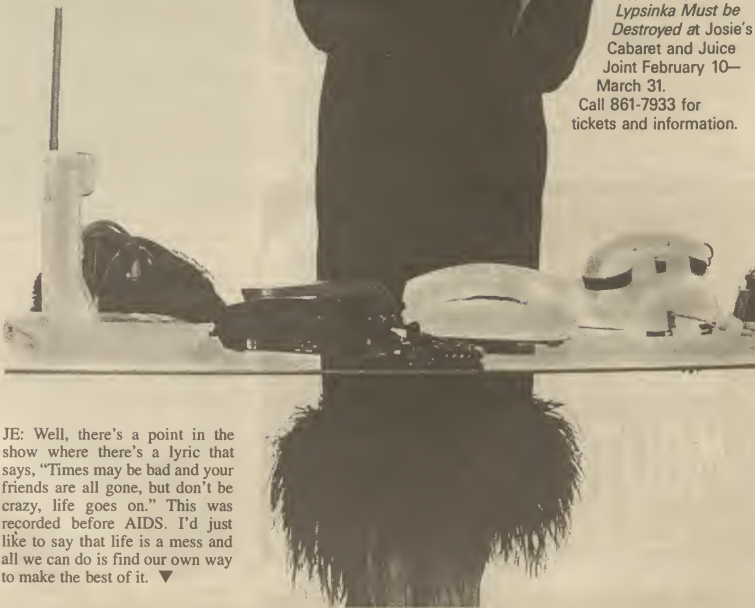
B.A.R.: What do you mean by alienated?

JE: Did you see *Bent*?

B.A.R.: With the two guys masturbating on either side of the stage?

JE: Right.

B.A.R.: If there's anything you could say to someone who might be considering coming to the new show, what would it be?

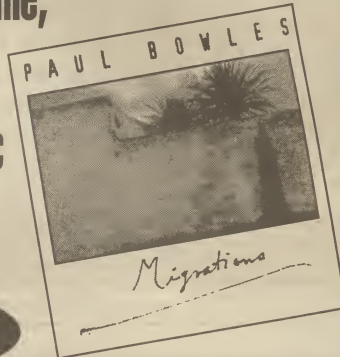


Lypsinka performs *Lypsinka Must be Destroyed* at Josie's Cabaret and Juice Joint February 10—March 31. Call 861-7933 for tickets and information.

Photo: Daniel Nicoletta

JE: Well, there's a point in the show where there's a lyric that says, "Times may be bad and your friends are all gone, but don't be crazy, life goes on." This was recorded before AIDS. I'd just like to say that life is a mess and all we can do is find our own way to make the best of it. ▼

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Octavio Solis' *Prospect* Journey into Light

by Jerry Metzker

There is a sensation that all people feel at one time or another, particularly single people, that is not so much a sense of loneliness as it is a sense of aloneness. Being alone and being afraid to be alone often lead to desperation. In his new play, *Prospect*, Octavio Solis digs deep into the heart of desperation, unearths it, and displays all of its variations. The results, though not especially cheerful, are positively stunning.

The play's characters and situations are as complex as its ideas.

After a long and lonely drinking binge, a young computer pro-

grammer who calls himself Scout (Sean San Jose Blackman) meets Liza (Delia MacDougall), who has spent an hour waiting for her married boyfriend and is not the least bit happy about it. When Vince (Dennis Matthews) finally arrives, he takes Liza and Scout on a psychological journey filled with their own fears and feelings.

This journey is manifested in a trip home to meet Vince's wife, Elena (Monica Sanchez), who is terminally ill; Vince is her sole caregiver. As Elena is Latina and Vince is Italian, her family has disowned her for not marrying her own kind. Thus, the couple is completely alone.

There's more. Both Scout and

Liza have their own secrets. One is in denial of personhood and family, the other of heritage. Throughout the long night of drinking and pot smoking, the characters' defenses are slowly stripped away to reveal their pain and fear. Each craves human connection, but connections are hard to make and, more often than not, simply lead to more pain. In the morning, the characters awaken to a different take on themselves and the world.

It sounds excruciating, but Solis has written a brilliant play that is not only about human suffering, but about love and perseverance. The relationship between Vince and Elena is beautiful, and Scout makes a tremendous transformation under Elena's careful tutelage.

In addition to writing *Prospect*, Solis also directs. Though his director's eye may not be as keen as his writer's mind, he does guide his family of talented actors through an intricate web of emotions and situations with great sincerity and clarity of purpose.

The production is beautifully envisioned with the design talents of Jeff Rowlings (sets), Jim Cave (lights), and Callie Floor (costumes).

The performances are all terrific. Matthews, who is frequently cast as the heavy, gets to play the same sort of role with a little more vulnerability this time. His moments with Elena are as tender as his moments with Scout and Liza are lively and wild. Blackman continues to grow as an actor. Here, he's simultaneously young, inexperienced, brainy, nerdy and manly, all in good measure. When he provides Elena's suffering body with a brief moment of phys-

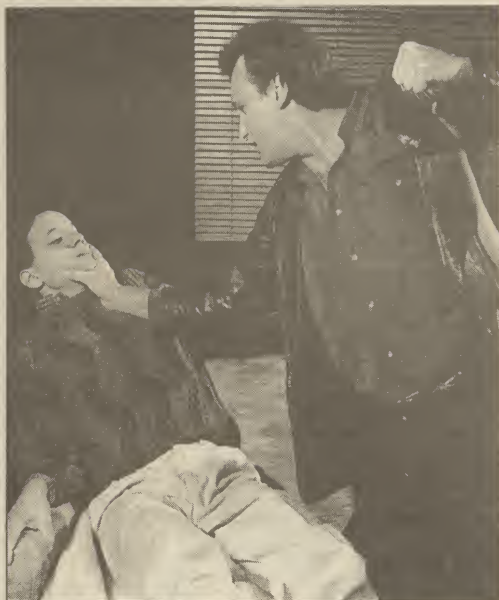


Photo: Jay Blakesberg

Sean San Jose Blackman and Dennis Matthews in Octavio Solis' *Prospect*.

ical pleasure, he becomes a human god of love and compassion in a world that rarely salutes a beautiful act.

Delia MacDougall adds yet another exquisite characterization to her litany of memorable performances. Here she's all elegance and sophistication on the surface, but underneath she's an emotional wreck.

Yumi Sumida as Red, a bizarre cocktail waitress, and Hansford Prince as Winter, Vince's drug dealing pal, also give good performances.

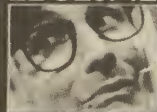
Still, the evening belongs to Monica Sanchez, who is absolutely brilliant. There is not a moment

in the play when her emotional and physical prowess are not in evidence. One moment she is strong and comforting, the next she is demanding and demeaning, and then, later, she is contorted with pain. Finally, having given up on hope for herself, she casts her hope at others, eager to fill them with some divine food. Such acting is of the highest caliber, and in a play like *Prospect*, one more pleasure in an evening of many. ▼

Prospect continues at the Magic Theatre through February 18. Call 441-8822 for tickets and information.

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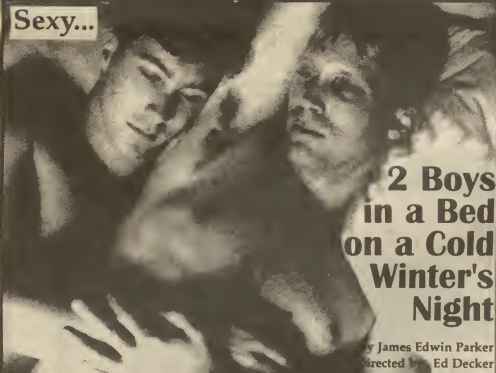
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Photo: Steve Savage

Out *Calls Only*, written by the mysterious JoJo LeFft (rumored to be a popular local gay writer/performer), takes an entirely different approach to humanity than the more serious work of Octavio Solis. This cheerful bit of frivolity has been created not so much to point out the pain and desperation of the models and escorts who advertise in the back pages of this illustrious newspaper, but to point out the sometimes fun, sometimes bizarre life of a high-priced call boy.

There are three such boys in this production. Rave (Russell Pachman) is a punky skateboarder who works part-time in a sex shop. Sergio (Doug Wilson) is the inexperienced lad with big dreams. Bixby (Edward Graham) is the cool and successful professional who has his own foolish dreams. At one time or another, they are all hired by Grant (Steven Patterson) to fulfill his fantasies. Grant is a successful businessman who plans his sex life as meticulously as he does his stock purchases.

There's lots of nudity, pretend sex, and silly jokes. The actors are cute, the play isn't too long, and the dark side of life rarely rears its ugly head. As directed by Steve Omlid, *Out Calls Only* is a pleasant diversion for a dreary winter evening. ▼

—Jerry Metzker

Out Calls Only is at Theatre Rhino through February 18. Call 861-5079 for information.

Orson Welles

Continued from cover

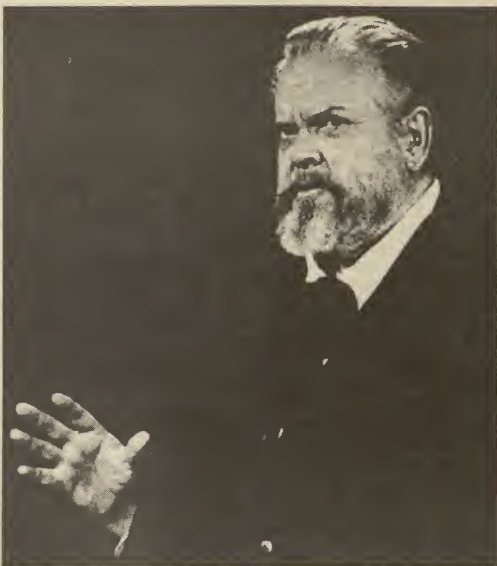
Masson ("no wine before its time"), bizarre extended cameos in other people's films (*Casino Royale*), and magic acts on *The Merv Griffin Show*. Welles had precisely the same reasons for these seemingly degrading activities as the rest of us do for working — to pay bills that allow us to finance artistic whims.

Welles' "whims" — 20 years of parodies, travelogues, pilots, sketches, fragments, and truncated features — form the basis of *Orson Welles: The One-Man Band*. The German filmmakers convinced Welles' final companion, actress Oja Kodar, to let them construct a documentary around some of the vast quantities of unseen material from this period. While many of the titles are familiar, the footage itself shows an unexpectedly enthusiastic, witty, and artistically evolved Welles.

Throughout his career Welles had enough artistic cachet to attract top actors, even when his projects were mired in financial problems. *The Deep* starred Jeanne Moreau, Lawrence Harvey and Oja Kodar in what appears to be an existential melodrama on the high seas. Welles plays a kind of updated Captain Ahab in this film, shot on the Adriatic coast between 1967 and 1969. In the tantalizing fragment shown in the documentary, Harvey abducts Kodar. We also see test shots for *The Dreamer* (1980), based on stories by Isak Dinesen. The lush, romantic atmosphere, reminiscent of Ophüls, is a tribute to Welles' favorite writer.

Welles returned to the experimental style for which he is best known in a bizarre version of *Moby Dick* (1971). The fragments show Welles at the height of his theatrical power, playing several roles, but startlingly, without costumes, make-up, or props. Even more ambitious was *The Merchant of Venice* (1970), which, even in mere clips, shows Welles as a possibly definitive Shylock.

Perhaps most surprising, but typical of Welles at this time, are his British parody sketches. In the satirical travelogue *Swinging London* (1969), he appears as a one-



There was more to late Welles than ads for Paul Masson and magic tricks on *The Merv Griffin Show*.

man band, a Chinese strip club owner, a bitchy housewife, and most memorably, as a dowdy "flower girl" who begs passersby, "Please buy my filthy post cards." In puncturing the pomposity of the world, he doesn't spare himself. In *Tailors* (1970), he plays a kind of wounded, Margaret Dumontish foil to the two title characters, who ruthlessly ridicule his oversize dimensions.

Most impressive is a scene from *The Other Side of the Wind*, in which Kodar seduces a young man in the cramped space of a car. This tightly-shot sequence has such an erotic charge that it suggests an alternate career for Welles — redeeming the inanities of the adult film industry. Though filming went on intermittently from 1970 to 1976, *The Other Side of the Wind*, a film Welles believed was the equal of *Kane*, has been trapped in litigation for years.

Welles appears throughout in interviews. The "spent volcano" who packed filming equipment in-

stead of clothes when he traveled calls himself "a profound pessimist with a sentimental attachment ... toward hope." What emerges in his exchanges with students, however, is a self-deprecating wit and genial stoicism that shows he had come to terms with himself and his sometimes overpowering "legend." ▼

Orson Welles: the One-Man Band plays February 2 — 8 at **The Roxie Cinema, 3125 16th St.** Call 431-3611 for information.

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Out There

Continued from page 35

heard from here to Botswana. Press notices were withering, especially the one penned by this paper's Deborah Peifer, whose review was so merciless in its shredding details that we began calling Ms. Peifer *The Weedeater* shortly thereafter.

Alas, despite cries that her literary debut was a hate crime against literature, Martina is back in print with her second mystery, *Breaking Point*, co-written, like the first, by Liz Nickels. Advance buzz (never as reliable as a Weedeater) says this book is much better than the first. In *Breaking Point*, retired tennis pro Jordan Myles once again finds herself, much like the first story, at the center of international intrigue, computer espionage, a world of celebrities and powerbrokers, bitter rivals, swinging cocktail parties, death and murder (sounds a lot like the annual B.A.R. Christmas party).

Martina's press release says *Breaking Point* could only have been penned by someone who knows the "fabulous and not-so-fabulous world of tennis" inside and out. Just how fab and unfab that world is, we don't know for sure, but if you really want to know we suggest you buy Nav's book and find out. It's in bookstores starting February 7. Martina herself will answer questions



Martina Navratilova

about her book when she appears for a booksigning at A Different Light on February 12. Call 431-0891 for times.

A gaggle of SF art queens (read: goatees, pierced noses, endless clichés) could be heard braying last week at a Castro area cafe about how there are no gay visual artists in SF whose reputations extend beyond the Bay Area. Well, we beg to differ. Gay artist Naylor Blake, who co-curated last year's queer exhibit "In A Different Light" in Berkeley, lives in San Francisco and his reputation extends to at least two continents. Blake's latest show, "Hare Attitudes," an exhibition of the artist's outrageous bunny outfits, is currently up at the Houston Contemporary Arts Museum. It may only be Texas, it's true, but it sure beats Cafe Flore. ▼

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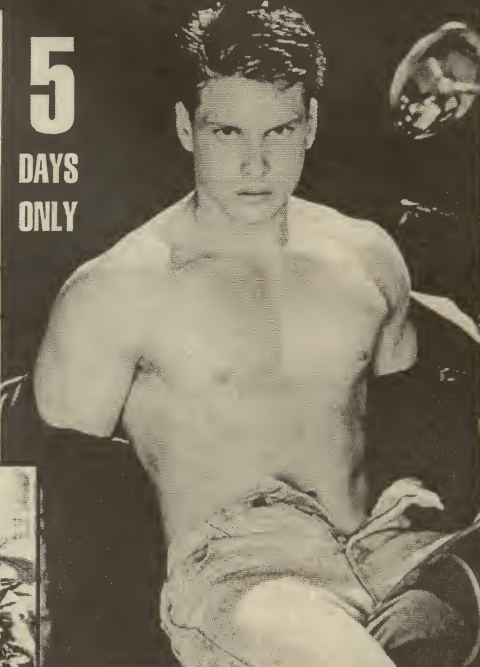
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FILM

Doris Dorrie's *Nobody Loves Me* **Pillow Crock**

by John Blanco

Fanny Fink (Maria Schrader) is single, fast approaching her 30th birthday and feeling prematurely spinsterish. It's been four years since her last relationship, and she's desperate to be coupled again. But despite a pretty face (Schrader looks like a young Jeanne Moreau), Fanny is too insecure to win anyone. Her self-esteem is so low she has to listen to affirmation tapes, repeating the mantra "I love and am loved," before she can get out of bed in the morning.

Fanny's search for Mr. Right is the focus of *Nobody Loves Me* (Keiner Liebt Mich), a slight, and in many ways, old-fashioned comedy by German writer-director Doris Dorrie. In its first half, the movie seems like a skewed '90s answer to frothy early '60s romantic comedies like *Follow the Boys* or *Looking for Love*, flicks in which a pants-chasing Paula Prentiss or Connie Francis had to endure many kooky misadventures before finally snaring a man.

Fanny's own kooky misadventures begin when she has Orfeo (Pierre Sanoussi-Bliss), a black psychic/palm reader who lives in her apartment building, look into her romantic future. Orfeo tells her she will soon meet a tall, handsome, successful blond stranger who will just as quickly slip out of her life if she doesn't take the initiative. When Lothar (Michael Von Au), a new apartment manager who fits that description, introduces himself to Fanny the next day, she makes her move.

Unfortunately, Fanny's prophesied prince turns out to be a greedy yuppie (a cliché right down to his Armani suit and cellular phone) who is intent on turning the dilapidated apartment complex in which she lives into luxury condos. Still, Fanny's blind to the dashing Lothar's faults, and she turns sexual aggressor only to have him reject her after a one-night stand.

You can't really blame him. The way Dorrie has written her, Fanny has nothing to offer a man except her neediness and desperation. She's a shallow and unlikely heroine, until the last half of the movie, after Lothar's rejection, when she begins to change under Orfeo's tutelage. The gay Orfeo, part-time drag queen, full-time mystic and free spirit, helps



Maria Schrader as Fanny Fink.

Fanny discover her uninhibited side through tribal dances in his apartment, and helps her find self-worth through his love and friendship. She blossoms, but it's a transformation that seems a little too pat.

As if our sympathies weren't with the kind, wise Orfeo already, Dorrie also has him at death's door. His illness, something to do with UFOs and his otherworldli-

ness, seems at first to be a metaphor for AIDS. But after a while, it becomes clear that Orfeo's extraterrestrial afterlife is just an excuse for Dorrie to heap on the whimsy. The same seems true of her decision to set the movie during Cologne's annual Carnival, allowing for lots of shots of city buildings strewn with party decorations and streets full of flamboyantly-costumed pedestrians.

Equally fanciful and extraneous to the story are the scenes involving Fanny's Conscious Dying course, in which she tries to learn how to "make friends with death." But at least these scenes — her suicide rehearsal and mock burial in a self-made casket, especially — provide a few laughs. As does Fanny's mother, an author of "masturbation manuals" who is as sexually liberated as Fanny is repressed. She constantly hounds Fanny to give her some grandchildren with lines like, "Is your biological clock digital? Don't you hear it ticking?"

For the most part, this film, like Dorrie's other work (she's best known for the 1985 international hit, *Men*), is a good-natured but sitcom-level comedy. The problem is that, occasionally, Dorrie mistakes it for high drama. For example, she uses Edith Piaf's "Non, Je ne Regrette Rien" several times to comment on the action in the film, and the emotional weight of the song overwhelms every scene in which it's used. You don't have to be a Piaf queen to be offended. ▼

***Nobody Loves Me* opens
 February 9 at the Embarcadero Cinemas.**

Lost In Space



by Gary Morris

Last works by great artists are usually accorded some measure of respect based on the artist's standing, no matter how incompetent they might seem. Not so in the film world, where semi-coherent swan songs like John Ford's *Seven Women* or Howard Hawks' *El Dorado* generate more laughs than tension, even among cinephiles. At age 87, Manuel de Oliveira joins that select company of senile directors no longer bothered by common sense, logic, or artistry. His latest, and surely last, effort, *The Convent*, stars John Malkovich as an American professor who visits an old Spanish monastery to research his thesis that Columbus was really a Spaniard. Malkovich is joined by his wife, played by Catherine Deneuve through reassuring layers of gauze. They become involved with the Faustian host of the monastery, who throws back his head periodically and laughs maniacally, as well as a pretty and pious librarian. There's much hand-wringing, mysterious lingering looks among the four principals, endless static shots of religious *objets*, liberal quotes from Nietzsche and Goethe, a "sacred place" in the woods from which nobody returns, a fisherman who silently watches, a pair of servants who gossip about their employers, and sudden, loud bursts of grating horror movie music that recall William Castle's films. *Saturday Night Live* could instantly renew its cultural cachet by purchasing this mindless mess and showing it uncut as a parody of a '60s European "art film." ▼

***The Convent* is playing at Opera Plaza Cinemas.**

BOOKS

A City of One's Own

Paris Was A Woman by Andrea Weiss; Harper San Francisco, \$20

by Erin Blackwell

The American artist in Paris is a cliché that doesn't usually involve a lesbian community complete with warring subsets. Film critic and maker Andrea Weiss' *Paris Was a Woman* sketches the lives of that handful of expatriate women writers, painters and lovers who hung out in the City of Lights between the two world wars.

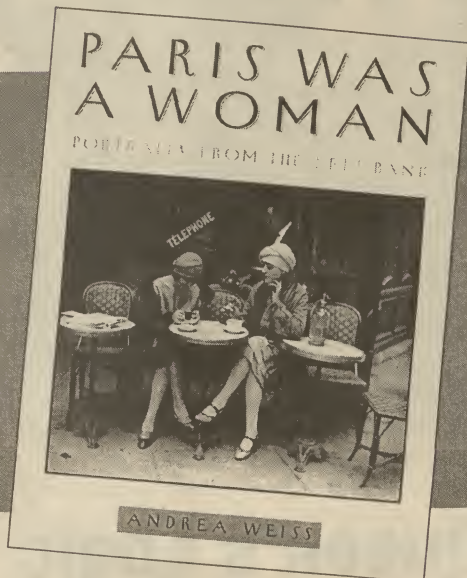
Evoking the permeable nature of lesbian relationships, no chapter is hermetic, but each focuses on a salient figure or pair: booksellers Adrienne Monnier (*La Maison des Amis des Livres*) and Sylvia Beach (*Shakespeare and Co.*); Gertrude and Alice; and salon mistress Natalie Barney and painter Romaine Brooks; writer Djuna Barnes; and Janet "Genet" Flanner.

Neither biography nor literary criticism, Weiss' elliptical prose works best when read as a voice-over script. This picture book is a spin-off of a yet-to-be-released documentary by the makers of *Before Stonewall*: Weiss and her partner Greta Schiller. Much thinner than Shari Benstock's 1986 *Women of the Left Bank*, the book can be read in one sitting, with most of the time devoted to the photos.

Despite the title, Weiss doesn't attempt a portrait of the city — or its denizens — that might explain (beyond the relative weakness of the franc) how an entire subculture of lesbians from other countries thrived there. The French lesbian scene is completely ignored — except by way of Colette, who's worked in as a subsection in the chapter devoted to Natalie Barney.

In place of documentation about the city, Weiss relies on anthropomorphizing generalities. Informing us in her introduction that "Paris has often been imagined as a mysterious, seductive woman," she doesn't criticize this essentialist characterization. She merely changes its job description. Paris' "female qualities," she writes, have let women "express themselves in less conventional, more substantive ways than simply as romanticized mistress or muse." Some substantive socio-cultural analysis — instead of romanticized sexism — would have been welcome.

Despite its misleading title and neocolonialist perspective, *Paris Was a Woman* works as a paperback pantheon of women artists who eluded the constraining models of the old country. The book should be in the hands of every 13 or 33-year-old deciding her future path. Artistic reputations aside, Lesbian Nation's social games and erotic configurations haven't changed much. There just aren't any more dollar-a-day hotels left on the Left Bank, that's all. ▼



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PHOTOGRAPHY



Marlene Dietrich, photographed by Cecil Beaton, 1935.

Photo: Cecil Beaton

Queen's Logic

Cecil Beaton: Photographs 1920-1970 by Philippe Garner and David Alan Mellor; Stewart, Tabori & Chang, cloth \$85

by John F. Karr

The photographs of Cecil Beaton: hot-house portraits, taken in settings overstuffing with Victorian bric-a-brac; gilt mirrors reflecting fey wonder worlds created with painted backdrops, tin foil, tapestries, cellophane and balloons. From the moment I first saw one of these photographs — years before I knew that I, or even Sir Cecil, was gay — I knew this was the work of a big queen.

Despite such precocious intuition, little did I know the full truth. Oh, I'm sure the discerning reader could have found it in the numerous diaries and memoirs Beaton published during his lifetime, but I never read those — the pictures were proof enough. All hunches were confirmed, however, with the publication of *Cecil Beaton: Photographs 1920-1970*. This lavish collection of photographs is accompanied by an essay by Beaton curator David Alan Mellor, which provides a definitive glossary of Beaton signifiers, a Rosetta Stone as it were, that enables us to read in the photographs just how much of a queen the bloody bugger was!

It's true that Mellor never uses the G word. The subject of sexual

identity isn't even intimated. Instead, Mellor renders Beaton in socio-political terms, never realizing that these too can be subsumed by sexual identity. But in tracing Beaton's goals and suc-

cesses, he provides nearly the entire canon of 20th century homosexual signifiers. Discussing the photographer's repertoire of devices, Mellor names "irony, theatrical framing, the use of mirrors



Cecil Beaton photographed by Paul Tanqueray in 1937.

Photo: Paul Tanqueray

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and an open display of fiction," used "to secretly declare the essentially comic." Mellor says Beaton's genre, "the costumed and stage self," is "a system of substitutions and representations" in which "irony is freed and gender made mutable." The reason is that Beaton "recognized frivolity as the most insolent refinement of satire." You'd think you were reading about Oscar Wilde.

I'll leave to you the joy of tracing in the photos Beaton's code of props and poses. It's a joyous expedition, made all the more pleasurable by the subtle tonal qualities of the book's handsome, large reproductions. Beaton gloried in the many shades of gray, and made to his subjects a gift of light, "iridescent and nebulous." These colors and qualities are suitably represented here.

It's true that in his portraits, especially the early ones, Beat-

Continued on page 43

PHOTOGRAPHY



Mary Taylor, photographed for *Vogue* by Beaton in 1937.

Beaton

Continued from page 42

on's self-absorption, signature decor and obvious retouching too often call attention to themselves, but he was often inspired. While inventing his codes, he broke conventions, indulged like some English Cocteau his remarkable fancy, and planned and perpetrated an assault on society that was as pioneering as it was subversive. The overview of Beaton's character and his creations provided by this book's text, not to mention the photos, is illuminating and treasurable.

However, the book has neither a list of plates nor an index, mak-

ing individual photos and particular subjects hard to find. Chronological order is not quite specific enough, and though the tome includes nearly 300 photos, there should be two or three times more. Happily, the plates have a size and clarity conspicuously missing from the two previous Beaton collections, *The Best of Beaton*, 1967 and *Beaton*, 1980. Surprisingly few of the same photos appear in all three books, which really makes them complementary, not competitive. Sadly, the earlier books are out of print, making this one's presentation of nearly 300 photographs seem meager. This is just the tip of Sir Cecil. Juicy as it is, I wish it was subtitled Volume One. ▼



Fey Wonder Worlds: Nancy Beaton as a shooting star for the Galaxy Ball, 1929.

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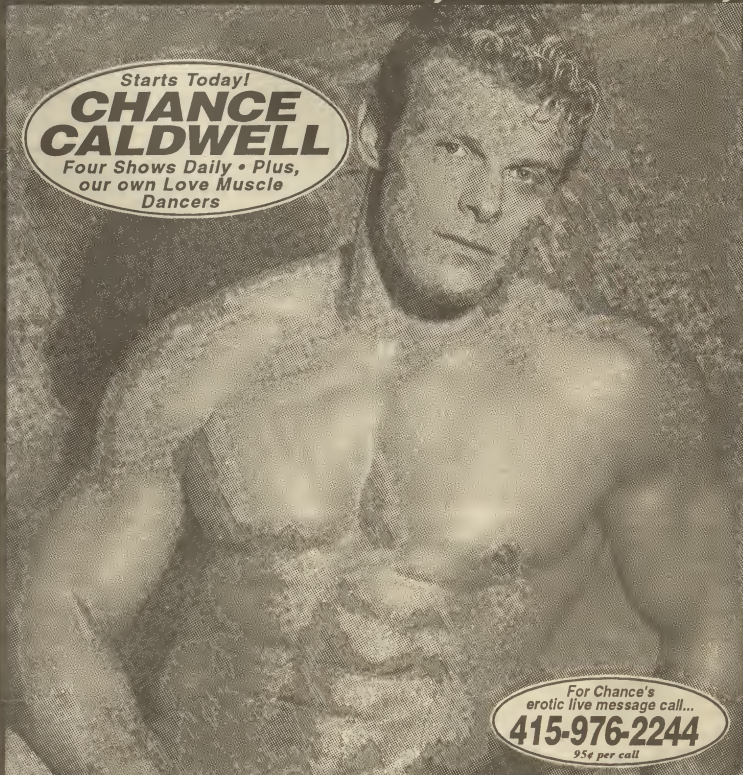
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Wednesday eve, saw you twice, on the 3rd. You watched Persuasion alone, wearing light jeans, grey hooded s/shirt, c/c flight jacket, reddish beard/hair, close to my height, 5'5". Could we have coffee, talk? ☎ 8302.

Still Missing You

You: Kevin. Me: Lars. You left too quickly after our "brief" encounter. Have missed you terribly since 1/12/95 when you took your leave "in the world with so few heroes." You know the rest. LWB ☎ 8303.

Eddie @ Edge 12/2/95

Gave you my number. You had called before got home. Phone machine lost your message. Call again. Michael ☎ 8304.

1/5 Church &
Market 1:30pm

You were waiting at Cal Fed. I got on #22 bus. I'm blonde, you, dark with glasses. We waived. Wanna see you up close and personal? ☎ 8305.

12/25/95 SF Shuttle To SF
You smiled, I smiled back at you. We ended up holding hands in the back seat. I found it difficult to talk to you in that setting. Please call ☎ 8306.

Watergarden
1/4/96 At 4:00am

Rm 38. You wavy black cat, also on chest. Had brief encounter. You gym bod. Me Asian CS with mohawk hair style. told you I started CS with roommate via USN. ☎ 8307.

Sweet Inspiration
Wed 1/3 8:30pm

You: GWM, faded red cap, glasses, sitting along wall. Me: GAN, trying to read, glasses. Keep looking at each other. You went to the restroom said "goodbye" as you left. I wish I had introduced myself. Single? Would like to meet you ☎ 8308.

Emporium New Years Day
We flirted all the way down the escalator. You black hair, blue jeans, white t-shirt, & great smile. Me: blond, black jeans, green checkered shirt. You're hot! Lets continue where we left off. ☎ 8309.

Bush ST, 1/4/96,
Thurs, 10:30pm

You: Drk hair, white tee shirt, jeans, leather jacket. You went to third frt apt of the bldg I was across the street from. Me: Drk hair, jeans, leather jacket, briefcase on phone. ☎ 8358.

After Xmas Shopping

You were the tall, glding, teacher. I was shorter sales man. You came in on my last day to get tapes. We also talked about min discs, HDTV, and moving out of the country. When we shook hands before you left, I felt electricity. If you felt the spark too, give a call and let's see what ignites. ☎ 8368.

Seeking D - Glen Park

Met back in 1995 at Embarcadero #4, daytime after dental appt. Would like to meet again. Dave ☎ 8400.

Guernville Jan 4,
Thursday, 7:30 to 8:30

At bar. You: 5'9", 150#, dark hair, handsome, great smile & kind eyes. Me: 5'10", 183#, br hair, fair. Bought you drink, then left. To shy to talk, regret it. Same place thursday, please call. Like to know you ☎ 8401.

We Waved, Friday,
1/12 Castro & 17th

About 9:30pm, we exchanged smiles (I told my friend how handsome you were). I waved as you crossed 17th and you waved back. Me: White turtle neck, jacket, beard. You: blue plaid shirt, dark hair. Would like to do more than smile and wave. ☎ 8434.

Young
East Bay Okinawan

Met on Polk St. before Christmas. Oakland previous to that. Let's get together again. Please call ☎ 8310.

Rob/Rod

I left a message on Nov 30th. You called several times afterwards but I was unavailable. I'm available now! Jeff ☎ 8435.

Sun, 1/21, 3:30pm, Soaps
Laundromat

You: Jean & grey sweatshirt, 20's, brn/bm, under 6', great smile, card shopping w/ friend doing laundry. Me: Jeans & blue sweater, brn/blu, 6'. Saw you at Spinelli's & Headlines, then said "hi" outside of Soaps. Your smile makes me melt. Coffee? You can even get whipped cream again ☎ 8560.

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By 44yo, GWM, top, 6'4", 245#, NS, ND, dk hair, bl eyes, looking for a younger man, 20-30, glding, bottom boy, w/ a trim, athletic, build, ND, NS, clean shaven, preferred. Call ☎ 8311.

Bear Looking For Love
GW Southern Gentleman, 44, looking for GW, 38-52, hairy chested man! You need to be somewhat in shape, enjoy traveling, boating, movies, and romantic nights and days! I am the most cuddly man you will ever meet. I enjoy hours of foreplay! Let's talk! ☎ 8312.

"A Kiss Is Still A Kiss"
25yo, GWM, 5'7", 130#, ISO, 25-30, GWM, fun, happy and most of all honest! Who is perfectly happy at home in front of the fire listening to Cole Porter or out on the town w/ friends. ☎ 8313.

Big Throbbing Heart
Seeks same. Fully accessible, GWM, 5'8", 140#, HIV-, borderline nerd wants open and honest bud to share big questions and small truths. No full-time dick slaves, please. ☎ 8314.

Big Boy
Likes travel, playing, cooking, and keeping my man happy. 39yo, 6', 290#, blue eyed, brown hair & looking for boys who like to laugh and have fun. ☎ 8315.

Wheelchair Or Crutches
I'm 5'7", Asian, 145#, workout, 22yo, attractive and able bodied. You WMM, taller, age unimportant, in a wheelchair or on crutches. Large thick feet or cast/brace on foot a plus. ☎ 8316.

Where Are You?
GWM, 35, 5'10", 175#, brn/hzl, clean shaven, yng lkng, prof, HIV-, Likes 4x4, camping, room service, travel, classical, Live 105, brew(micro), dining, Ocean to Sierras sks similar more masculine under 45, for exploring & ☎ 8318.

Top Asian Seeks GWM
GWM, 30's - up, NS, ND, honest, HIV-, monogamous, rel. oriented. Romance/togetherness on reg. basis. Not overweight. Slender a plus/slim. ☎ 8319.

Marlin County Top
GWM, 42, 5'10", HIV+, healthy in body and spirit seeks similar for fun times. ☎ 8321.

Blonds Have More Fun
With blonds. Attractive, 33, 6'3", long bl/bl, lean, in-shape, HIV-. Seeking 25-40yo, lean, in-shape, HIV-, blond brother for monogamous LTR. ☎ 8322.

Romantic And Sincere
Nice looking 33, GWM, HIV-, NS, 5'8", 163#, clean cut, personable, educated, kind, loving & fun. Seeks special GWM, (38-48). Be honest, know how to communicate & have a heart & a brain. ☎ 8323.

**Seeking Hairy
Muscular Top Man**
German-Swedish GWM, 37, 5'10", 115#, dk bl/cobalt blue eyes, HIV+, bottom, nice "babyfakes", looking for HIV+ top bisexual or gay man (any race) for LTR. Please be hairy & muscular between 34-45. Must like thin men! ☎ 8324.

I Wanna Suck You Off
Not for the big repeat chesty meat but the big repeat big load(s). I get to savor & swallow as my just dessert for a job well done. Oh yeah, I'm Captain/Us Olympic Cockucking team - not 4 my brown eyes. ☎ 8326.

Tired Of Games?
I am Ebay GWM, 35, 5'7", glding, 150#, br/bl, HIV-. Genuinely employed, fit, honest, versatile. Out of LTR for 1 yr and hate it. Seek similar GWM or GLM, 30-40. Bars are not your life. NS/ND. Friendship, possible LTR. Photo exchange. No fems. ☎ 8327.

Romeo Seeks Romeo
GAM, 33yo, 5'8", 160#, attractive, NS, clean-cut, no facial hair, fit, loves out doors, bright, romantic. You: GWM or GLM good shape, NS, for friendship or more. ☎ 8328.

**Romantic Sensitive
Bottom Seeks SF Top**
We: Both, GWM, HIV+, healthy, want supportive, LTR with love, affection, hot sex, fun times. Dining out, some drink, shared responsibility. Monogamous, please. Take the chance. ☎ 8329.

**Eastbay HIV+,
Latin Top Wanted**
Prefer Capricorn or Virgo who smokes and can hand role. GWM, HIV+, 33, blonde, blue, 6', 185#, handsome, widow in Concord area needs dark papacito. ☎ 8330.

**If You Are
Masculine Read On**
I like, big guy, maybe cause I'm big. I'm not talking fat. Just thick, 5'11", 6' on up, blk, Asian, Hsp, masculine (If I want a Woman I'd get one) Me: BM, good person, down to earth. You same. I top, you versatile. ☎ 8331.

Barly WM
Looking for trim guy over 25 who enjoys the company of a heavier, probably older guy (late 40's). NS, ND, HIV- Enjoy oral and tit play and other goodies. ☎ 8438.

Hairy Stud
Like to service confident, aggressive, hot top? Me: hairy, handsome, 33, 5'9", 148#, goatee, built chest, total top with big dick. You: Under 35, attractive, total bottom, eager to please. ISO GWM for good sex, possible romance, affection, fun. Healthy men only. ☎ 8332.

**Asian
Seeks Asians**
30yo, Asian, seeks Asians for fun or relationship. I'm 5'5", 110#, not into bars, seeks same with same quality, around my size or a little richer. Chinese or Japanese. ☎ 8369.

Where Are You?
Cute 19 year old GAM, 5'3", 130#, NS, enjoys quiet times, reading, movies, arts, classical music and opera. Seeking an attractive, muscular man under 35, who is sincere, affectionate, content with a monogamous relationship and shares same interests. ☎ 8402.

Smooth & Affectionate
Handsome, 36, WM, 6'2", 180#, affectionate, kind, caring, HIV-, seeking other HIV- for possible relationship/friendship. No hard games, serious only. ☎ 8403.

**I Want To Make
Meat To Believe**
Very attractive, very artistic, very special, GAM, 40's, looks ten years younger than my own age, 5'9", 150#, gym-toned, seeks GM same quality 24-34yo only. There's reason that brought people together, call me. ☎ 8325.

Bay Area My Home
Quality, sincere, Seattle GWM, 37, 6'0", 235#, would like to find ns, HIV-, bottom, GM, in Bay Area to live with and love. I love movies, dining, and I play the piano. Would find work. Let's meet and go from there. ☎ 8404.

**Passionate Stud
Puppy For Papa**
You're friendly, thick, hunk, turned on by my big, stocky, 50+, gray beards. You eagerly use your body to please, but does anyone reach out the puppy in you? Slide on my lap. Papa will pet, caress, lick, and cherish you. In my arms your "puppy" is safe and your passion returned. ☎ 8405.

**Want LTR
SF GWM HIV+ Top**
For this GWM total bottom. We are healthy, like outings, dinner, drinks, weekend sex, love. We: Responsible, caring, attitude free, affectionate, love sex, cuddling. I really want monogamy. ☎ 8406.

38 Blond Smooth Muscular
HIV-, down to earth, relationship in mind, 5'8", 120#, seeks non-dysfunctional, good hearted, natural, hairy chested guy, for dating, hard core cuddling. Around my age, live in Oakland. ☎ 8407.

**Walnut Creek
East Bay GWM**
Looking to meet other GWM friendship, fun, sex, pos. LTR. Affectionate top, seeks bottoms who enjoys long sessions, videos. Very oral. I'm in shape & clean. Call me. Let's talk, don't be shy. Call now. ☎ 8408.

Hey Young Squirrels!
GWM, 23, auburn hair, hazel eyes, 5'10", 140#, seeking younger, smooth bodied boys, 20 and under, for fun and adventurous friendships! Please call! ☎ 8409.

Oral Dad
SF, GWM, 5'9", 145#, HIV-, grey beard, ND trim, healthy, eager to please. Loves leather/rubber. Wants to meet masculine guy with facial hair over 40 for friendship, fun times. ☎ 8436.

**Platonic Good Looking,
Slim, Retired Guy**
Moustache, crew cut, hb, 5'9", 150#, HIV-, seeks similar guy, no sex! Interests: music, opera, politics, science, etc. Smoke, bars ok. ☎ 8437.

Seeking A Bottom
GWM, 54, 185#, HIV-, attractive, loving, wants LTR. UB, WM, 32-45, slim to stocky, employed, intelligent, not into drugs or alcohol or bar scene. ☎ 8439.

Let's Have Fun
GWM, 38, masc., etc., in shape, works out daily, recovery oriented, smoker, seeking top, GM, HIV-, for date and possible LTR. ☎ 8440.

Wolf New To Territory
Looking for an alpha to follow or a pup to lead. I'm GWM, 32, 5'10", 165#, br/bl, bearded, furry. I'd like you to be GWM, thin, tall, far comp between 25 and 45. ☎ 8561.

**Skinny Young
White Boys Wanted**
BM, 32, 6'2", 180#, good job, smooth, lean body, seeks responsible and discreet young white boys 18-24 only who needs some loving and caring for. Give it a try. ☎ 8562.

48 Year Old
GWM, trim, 5'10, HIV-, sensitive, versatile/bottom seeks relationship any race to 53. ☎ 8320.

Looking For Daddy 40-60
Young 40's, tall, masc, must, br/br, good looking, trim #200. Good heart, mind, soul, attentive, dependable, warm, affectionate, bottom. WLM rugged/handsome, in excellent shape, Lvs trip top. Frequent trips to SF from Sacramento. ☎ 8563.

Real And Ready
Slim, fit, youthful mid 50's, GWM, seeks relationship oriented top partner. I'm professional, stable, formerly married. We are both HIV-, nonsmokers/users, open minded with many interests, self-aware and ready. ☎ 8564.

SEEKING
RELATIONSHIP
W-W

Total Romantic
GWF, I'm 26, love romance, walks on the beach, sunsets, low profile, and much more. If you are GWF, petite 21-30 who loves nature, romance, then we should meet, friendship first, later possible relationship. ☎ 8570.

SEEKING
ADVENTURE
M-M

Your Hot Butt
My long tongue & bony moustache a wild ride you'll never forget. Me: Hot GWM, 37yo, 6', 160#, brn/blu. You: Hot & ready. ☎ 8344.

Cycling Buddy
You between 20-26yo, model, jockey type who like to cock & dine out, I, GLM, 23, 5'7", 140#, HIV+, healthy. Seeking a male buddy for cycling, tennis & friendship. ☎ 8336.

Asian Attraction
GAM, 33, 5'7", 130#. Looking for in shape, GWM under 40 for erotic pleasures. ☎ 8338.

Attn Black/Hispanic Men
WM, 45, 175#, 5'11", ISO, BM/HM, for raw indoor adventure. Height/weight proportionate, sports fans and big hands are especially welcome. ☎ 8333.

Cherry Picker?
Blid, brn eyes, goatee, hairy seeks top FF for my first time, teach me well - Sir. ☎ 8334.

**Easy Daytime
My Face Only**
WM, 40's, slim, 8' cut, seeks same to take orders from this top. You eat cock and ass. Foot play and mutual verbal a must. Short and hairy a plus but not required. ☎ 8335.

He Fed Me Often
And I worshiped his rod, but my hot black pal moved. Interested in such no hassle fun? I'm 30's, cute, white, clean, prof, guy with good body. Your place and HIV- only. Also turn on to muscular Asians ☎ 8337.

Your Body - My Tongue
Up the inside of your thigh, the back of your knee, your abdomen or your arm pit, this just to mention a few. I prefer men under 45, HIV-, and drug free. Let me take you on a new adventure in 96, call now. ☎ 8339.

Cock Sucker With Hot Ass
WM, 54yo, 5'7", balding, 125#, HIV-, get sucked, then fuck my tight hairy ass. Till we cum together. Discreet, my place in San Rafael. Late after noon or weekends. ☎ 8362.

**Fucking Animal
Needed Now!**
blond hair, eyed stud, 30, 5'10", 200#, masculine, muscle hunk wants clean-cut/muscle good looking man to top me. Call anytime. ☎ 8357.

Bottom Seeks Top
27yo, HIV+, bottom, needs talented tops. Me: 5'10", 165#, brn/bm, well-muscled, in good shape, 35yo, a smoker. You: Under, 45yo, no fats or fems, average looks, uncult A+. ☎ 8361.

**Tired Of
The Same Old Shit?**
Do you dig, heavy macho, muscle dude talk, but are sick of phone sex? Do you dig JO but need fuckers/suckers? Like buddy to buddy action but meet top bottoms? Do you dig getting wasted but meat NDT? Lets party at my place (Oakland) late pm. ☎ 8340.

**Handsome BB
Wants Pussy Cat**
He likes to play with you till you turn pussy cat in heat, eat your clean bubble butt, pin you down, and ride you till you shoot in ecstasy. If you like he will be up to you, tease you till you beg him to ravage you. Asian, 35yo, Asian/Latin features, smooth, sculptured, muscles, v-shape torso, big arms. You: Trim, cute, ready to play. ☎ 8341.

**Do-it-Yourself
Muscle Man Seeks Coach**
Top bl/bl, 180#, 6'7", well-muscled, athletic, seeks tough black coach. Work my body hard! Weights, pushups, thrusts. Make me sweat! Then massage my sore bulging muscles into ecstasy using your hands, lips and ass. All races ok. Black A+. ☎ 8358.

Wanted: Muscle Monster
Masculine guy, 40, 5'8", 160#, HIV-, in-shape, seeks huge, aggressive, muscle guy, 88, powerlifter on line-backer type. You want a smaller guy to dominate. I want a big man to treat me a little rough, grab me by the ears, buddy, and let's go! ☎ 8343.

**Married, Lonely,
Romantic Bottom**
Me: GWM, 6'3", brn/gm, 185#, 40, HIV+, husband, knows his cool. Seeking any race, any age, for boyfriend only. Be attractive, honest, down to earth, and hung 7" or more, HIV+, oral, G/A/c, passionate. San Mateo, Redwood City area or be willing to travel. ☎ 8345.

Affectionate Master
Seeking a good dog, obedient, well-trained, to lick my butt, balls & cock. Loyal, smart, quick, man's best friend. You? ☎ 8359.

**GWM, 38, Extremely
Good Looking**
Seeks fuck buddy in Santa Rosa, under 30, HIV-, only. ☎ 8363.

Chinese Seeks Fun Partner
31yo, Chinese, 105#, seeks same or small white guys around my size. I prefer Asians with hairy balls, under-arm and ass, loves to lick/kiss and everything else. ☎ 8370.

Bubble But Admirer Wtd
Love the feel of a manly round bubble butt. I'm 37yr, WM, beefy, thick, muscle, body, wk out regularly, nice round bubble butt that needs a beefy or stocky well bit mags guy to take care of it. I also love big pees (A+) to suck on. ☎ 8409.

**Bear Cub (27)
Sks Non-Cub Playmates**
GWM, furry, w/ crew cut, 27, 5'9", 190, head turner. Sks 80/SM cub adresses (<40) for play. 70/30 top into BD, SM, WS, CBT, and couple. You: Non-bear, non-cub, reasonable shape and in SF. ☎ 8410.

**Handsome, Hung,
28yo, WM Top**
Masculine & athletic, seeks good looking, fit, healthy, WM, bottoms, under 40, NS, ND, for light bondage, spank, WS & oral submission to my big gun. Leather, postcards, boot! No attitude. No mind fuck. ☎ 8411.

**Wanted: Masculine Bottoms
For Daytime Sex**
WM, muscular, Italian seeks a black, Latino, or white bottom for daytime sex. You should be lean masculine, a non-smoker and love to get fucked. I have a lover so discretion is necessary. ☎ 8412.

BarTalk

Personals are FREE!

You must use this form to submit ads. Use only the space provided. Do not attach additional paper or text. Deadline for ads is Wednesday, 5 pm, for the following week's issue. New ads will run for 3 consecutive weeks. You will be notified by mail with information on how to leave and retrieve messages from your mailbox ad. Print clearly. No ads will be accepted without valid address, telephone number and legible text. We reserve the right to edit ads.

Select One: ☐ Parting Glances ☐ Seeking Relationship M-M ☐ Seeking Adventure M-M
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Name _____ Day Phone No. _____ Eve. Phone No. _____
 Address _____ Apt No. _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip Code _____

Write your headline here: _____ (stop here)
 Write the rest of the ad here: _____ (stop here)

Mail to: BarTalk, 395 Ninth St., SF CA 94103

BAR TALK

Strip Off Your Clothes

Get naked in front of me and follow my orders. Masculine, lean, WM, 40, looking for other masculine trim guys 20-42. ☎ 8360.

Double Adventure

In shape, versatile, 5'11", hung big, needs other man (20's-30's), well built, hairy body, with a big firm hairy bubble butt to eat end fuck. ☎ 8413.

I Wanna Take It

Fiendly, gd/kg, healthy, masc, man, 8'1", 180#, 44, wants to take it from a nice, gd/kg, healthy guy 25-35 who likes to give it deep & sensual. Safe, ND, NS. ☎ 8414.

Butt hole

Seeks fucker. Me: bottom WM, 43, 6', 150#, big stache, buzz cut, HIV+, smokes, drink. You: Top, WM, older? taller? trim? hung, HIV+, smokes, drink. Us: Frequent raw fucking and FF, getting nasty, Marlboros, dip, cigars all A+. ☎ 8420.

Come And Get It

Hot hard top wants to play you good and deep for long sessions. I'm a GWM, 40, 5'6", 145#, athletic build, hairy chest, bm/bm. You be 25-35yo, in good shape, clean shaven and like it in the rear. ☎ 8415.

Total Anal

Bottom Bear
GWM, 44, 5'11", 200, balding, short brown hair, trim beard, hairy, beautiful white ass and experienced hole, HIV+. Professional and financially secure. Looking for anal master into long, plowing, ass play. ☎ 8416.

Palo Alto

Cock Sucking Filipino
36yo, 5'11", 185#, black hair, brown eyes, loves to suck white meat between the hours of 12am to 12pm, 7+ and beyond. Hairy men at. Tinted windows on autos etc. ☎ 8342.

Daytime JO - Oral Buddy
Discreet, nice looking, WM, 40's, 6', 170#, HIV+, fun, sincere, easy going & honest w/ big bells & hung seeks daytime buddy for sexual release w/ warmth & affection. ☎ 8417.

Handsome Blond

Top Seeks Bottoms
For early morning fun, I am well built, hung, 8'1/2", and enjoys a man who likes to please. If you're a friendly, playful guy I am waiting for your call!!! ☎ 8418.

Hardbody Umph!

My fantasy: Arm wrestling, flexing, rough housing, strongest guy gets to be top fuck in bed. Your fantasy? My ideal fuck mate is thin, hard bodied, muscular, slightly anorexic. ☎ 8419.

Civic Center Oral Expert
Handsome, GWM, seeks Latino/White men, 18-40yo, w/, 8+, who enjoys receiving sensual deep throat action. Must be trim/lean; gay/straight/bi/single/married welcome. No reciprocation. ☎ 8421.

What's Luv Got To Do With It?

2 good looking bottom guys 33-37yo are seeking a gd/kg top man or men, dominant & hung for hot sex. ☎ 8441.

Rough Sex & Soft Kisses

36, tall, lean, muscular & hairy Bi/bl, stache & goatee. Big uncult German mast. Passionately versatile. Be well built, well hung, well adjusted & sweaty. Pluses = Latinos, uncult, dark hair, hairy, blue collar, kg attitude. ☎ 8422.

8" Chocolate Love Rod

Needs a real man to pump. I enjoy men who are tall, husky, masculine, available and sincere. Please have a moustache but no other facial hair. Sessions with me are brief but intense. I'm 42, 5'10", 180#. Thanks. ☎ 8423.

S.J. Nice Ass/Small Dick

Mesc, GWM, 29, HIV+, 5'8", 160#, bi/bl, smooth bottom. ISO dominant/verbal, W, L, or top top, 19-35 to show me the ropes. Interested in wrestling, getting spanked, collared + B/D. Thin/younger a plus. No fats or femmes. ☎ 8424.

Double Top

Dominant guy 18-30 wanted to assist 26yo guy into dominating older GWM. ☎ 8442.

Curious & Playful

Very gd/kg hot & adventurous 32yo, 6', 185#, muscular, dark hair/eyes. In search of similar gd/kg hung (22-35, swimmer's build included) Open to steamy sex, explorative encounters (bondage, butt play) dating and relationships. ☎ 8444.

Little Brother Wanted

Hand, Masc, jock, 38, 8'2", 205, blond/blue, HIV+, solo. I'm looking for a masc, cut, younger brother, 18-25 to get horn-nasty with while mom & dad are away. Let's play. ☎ 8527.

Oral Service

For Hung Males
8M, 6'1", 190#, hung, masculine, clean shaven. Will service hung males with B+ plus. Masculine guys, bi, straight, married OK. ☎ 8523.

Mr. Big, Beefy,

Blonde, WM, Bodybuilder
5'11", 190#, born 1960, Butch & banign, HIV+, ball-swollen, butt-eater, with body-soaking load. You: Bigger, beefier, bodybuilding, brother, 8M, born before the birth of the Beatles. Butch & benign, HIV+, with bad-boy bulge. Us: Bara back, bologna-blowing, buddy-bonding bed mates. ☎ 8529.

Looking For A Top

Gay Latino male, 25yo, bottom, 150#, 5'10", HIV+, but healthy seeks a top man, HIV+, and who also lives in San Francisco. ☎ 8530.

Black Cherry Bottom

G8M, 36, 5'11", 190#, straight ecting. In bed I'm your bitch in heel! Smooth bubble butt, attractive, sensitive, affectionate, shy, big brown eyes, HIV+, hung, uncult. You: Top, HIV+, masculine, GWM, GLM, 68M. Hairy a plus. Call me! ☎ 8531.

Attrac, Dominant Top

Nice hairy chest, 14" arms, 5'10", 178#, aggressive top. Needs bottom 32yo. Be submissive, verbal, smooth etc. You want sex and ready to serve. ☎ 8533.

Jockstrap Wrestling

Muscular, handsome man seeks others turned on by erotic wrestling. Open to all fantasies and skill levels. No heavy rough housing, just good, clean, sweaty fun. Go ahead and call, you won't be disappointed. ☎ 8541.

Oakland Area (Or?)

GWM, seeking sex partner(s) on regular basis. I'm 45, HIV+, 6', bm/blu, 32w, bottom/versatile. Like to suck and have my ass fucked. ☎ 8542.

Oral Fixation

Gd/kg, GWM, 40, 5'8", 165lbs, bi/bl, cut, seeks other cut, GWM, ht/wt prop, for oral sex & JO workouts in SF. ☎ 8539.

Want Out?

GWM, 46, enjoys taking men out, good looking, good body, greet sexually and patient, private, discreet. AM or evening, age-race unimportant. ☎ 8543.

Let Me Worship You

Looking for a big, dominant, strong guy to worship, powerlifter or body builder type. This muscular, 5'9", 170#, 33yo, GWM. Will treat you like a king. Let me feel your power. ☎ 8544.

A1 Oral Service Delivered

SF GWM, HIV+, 6', handsome delivers complete oral service to guys who dig getting sucked off. Prefer trim, mature, no reciprocation. ☎ 8540.

Slim Asian Male

30yo, 5'5", 105#, seeks other Asians 18-35, top/bottom for fun or relationship, prefer guys who are not into bars, slim & hairy at+ but not necessary. I'm very versatile, loves to do everything. I'm very playful, seeks one to one fun, also into groups. Asians only please. ☎ 8573.

Dirty Son

43yo, hairy, scat son looking for bottom daddy. ☎ 8569.

Asian Seeks Asians

30yo, Asian seeks Asians for fun or relationship. I'm 5'5", 110#, not into bars, seeks some with some qualities around my size or a little smaller. Chinese or Japanese. ☎ 8574.

FETISHES

Oral Bottom

Deep throated, super long tongue, 6', 35, 165#, gd/kg, bin into reunch & water sports from wall hung, hairy, bealy butt, tops. Feed me! ☎ 8365.

Full Service

Toilet/Sewer Mouth
Services dirty, hairy-assed tops, smelly face sitters, stinking cock feeders. I'm 42, hairy, pierced, buzz head, bearded, hot bodied, scat/piss, hola, uncult, 40+, bad attitude, experienced call. ☎ 8346.

E Bay GWM

Sks TV for JO, dirty talk, mutual cock/bell worship. Aga, looks, size not important. Lata nita, my place only. Drink, smoke, party a must. Love of cock more important than butch/lame. ☎ 8428.

Hairy Scat Top

Looking for straight acting bottoms to service. HIV+, top into bathroom fantasy, under wear, tell and over 35+. ☎ 8348.

Scatt Feeder Sought

Voyeur has pig sty full of cute, young, hungry pigs onking away. Looking for handsome stud with good body, great butt. ☎ 8427.

Nice Guy Loves Barefeet

I have enjoyed lifelong excitement looking at and fantasizing about men's barefeet. I'm very aroused sensually and safe sexually by kissing, licking, smelling, and caressing barefeet in reciprocal action/JO. Gd/kg, Ebay, GWM, 5'8", 140#, tan, bearded, HIV-, NA, ND ☎ 8428.

Boot Slave

Seeks Sadistic Master
Cute, 29yo, boot slave seeks bliss at the feet of master in same age range. Privileges for boot slave include licking dirt from your boot soles while you piss, slap on, or whatever else you want. ☎ 8429.

Little Guy, Big Cock?

WM, late 40's, seeks little guy who fits the description, "big surprises come in small packages." You like showing off and having your big cock worshipped. Uncult e plus. Surprise me. ☎ 8556.

Under Trained

Submissive GWM
Slender, good shepe, 5'11", 52, HIV-, Seeks creative but safe dominant partner into intense, light, kink, fantasy, Fr, Gr, VNS, BD or whatever. ☎ 8571.

Hot Kinky Redhead

Lean, 166#, 5'11", 30#w, gray eyes, nips pierced, forearm tattoo, mohawk haircut, like butt work & FF, pitching & catching. Gaar/toys interests include rubber, leather, bondage, shaving, spades/briars/cycling trunks/jocks in shreds. Verbal fantasies a plus: incest, military, western, gladiator, police, animals, gym. Robin. ☎ 8572.

HIV+, Athlete's

Social For Singles
Wanna meet hot, healthy, HIV+, gym boys that are single? We do exist. If you wish to meet, date, romance, or just play without fear, call to find out about this social ☎ 8550.

Daddy Bottom

Needs Daddy top, any age, race, aggressive, dominant, anything goes, all night party, NHB, SM, BD, FF, WS, CT, TT, flag, etc, chink, deepthroat, gumbo for hours. 59yo, 5'11", 165#. ☎ 8551.

Black Men

WM seeks older hung black man who wants full time (morning shower, evening, weekend, party) cocksucker pisser, trainers, straight guys welcomed. ☎ 8552.

Like Your Butt Sucked

Very hot ass eater seeks very verbal hairy assed, fecalists into butt feeding on my rimssat. I'm gd/kg, 38, 6'2", 165#, wasp, buzz cut with big toilet seat stache. You: Facial hair, 30#, hot pig top heavy into rim jobs. Clean or not. Tots only. ☎ 8553.

Need Sex Slave

Jeans n-shirt master, WM, 28, 5'10", 160#, big uncult, seeks one or more gay/bi slaves for day time service. You are under 30, ready to obey and willing to please! Guys under 5'10", smooth and in shape preferred. Limits respected! ☎ 8554.

Little Guy, Big Cock?

WM, late 40's, seeks little guy who fits the description, "big surprises come in small packages." You like showing off and having your big cock worshipped. Uncult e plus. Surprise me. ☎ 8556.

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COUPLES

Attention Latinos & Asians

GWM couple, 40's, we love Latinos and Asians for fun and/or friendship. ☎ 8354.

GW Couple Wanted

By handsome GAM, 28, bottom. Let me be your live sex toy! ☎ 8355.

OTHER

Looking For 52 Good Men!

Photographing an erotic male nude card deck, interested? What card are you? Call Greg. ☎ 8352.

An Aspiring Gym Rat

Looking for work-out buddy to sweat on a regular basis. Went to be admired and wanna feel better but I need a partner. 23yo, college dude, fun & ambitious. ☎ 8353.

A Few Good Men

Do you like 'doit' in the daylight me too. I'm 50yo, tall, healthy, HIV+, and into things safe. You be similar and horny. ☎ 8367.

Looking For 52 Good Men

Photographing erect male nude card deck. Interested? What card are you? Call. ☎ 8431.

Workout Partner Wanted

I have gym set in my apt., nothing high tech, but more than most. Looking for partner with experience and dedication who wants to workout in Dolores Mission area. ☎ 8432.

Nude Massage

By 25yo, blond, handsome, German. Your place (SF and Merin only). ☎ 8433.

Gay Men Wanted

By diverse community chorus for possible LTR. Tenors & basses, please join us. ☎ 8446.

Upper Market

Mountain Bikers
Into mountain biking? Feel horny after a ride? Let's take a short bike ride near me back to my place and strip down and get it on. I'm a masculine, discreet WM, 20's-30's, near my body size. ☎ 8557.

Daytime Excursions Sought

35, GWM, HIV, retired, healthy seeks similar for daytime jaunts. 6'4", brn/hzl, slim. Wanting to meet new friends, friendly, down to earth, versatile. ☎ 8558.



BarTalk
Call Now!
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Nasty, Rough, Tit, Twisting

Buddy Needed
Me, 6', 155#, 57. You GWM, only pls, no cologne, no phone sex, daytime sessions preferred, big nipples & tit toys provided. ☎ 8534.

Ass Lickin'

I'm a 47yo, GWM, hairy top who wants to try being on the bottom. If you're a good looking muscular healthy top 28-35, I'd like to eat your ass. Have rim chair, train me slow, Sir. ☎ 8535.

Looking For Mr. Sugar

Discreet, loyal, mature, educated, HIV-, Spanish ling, 23yo, student seeking discreet prof. male, I'm 5'8", 132#, in shape, very cute, and saxy. ☎ 8536.

Uncult Seeks Uncult

Slim, Asian, 30yo, 5'5", 105#, seeks other Asian who are uncult for wild times. Prefer slim guys or small guys. ☎ 8537.

Daytime Sex Buddy Sought!

By gd/kg, GWM, 29, 5'9", 170, stocky, muscular build, very oral & versatile. You: Gay or Bi, WM, 24-40, gd/kg, well-built, oral & fun. I'm available Mon/Tues. Let's get together! ☎ 8538.

Wanted HIV+ Asian Top

Me Attractive, 50, bi/bi, 5'11", 170#, HIV+, healthy, passionate, attractive, bottom. I can take all you can give me, love kissing and holding, social, gentle, intense love of life, spiritual, professional. You: The younger the better, articulate, educated, in shape, employed, want to be a long term survivor, spiritual, passionate, love sex, no drugs, bi, drinking ok. ☎ 8532.

Hot Muscle Men Wanted

G8M, muscular and well hung looking for WM muscle man to worship. Big powerful muscles a must. Only safe hot muscle fun allowed. I know how to appreciate all your hard work in the gym. ☎ 8545.

Cream In Pants

You: Thin muscle guy, 18-35, defined, veiny arms, and/or washboard abdominals, love anal sex, slightly anorexic, prefer getting fucked, hard body, other sex fantasies possible. Me: Fit, muscle top, bent on domination, good times, fucker. ☎ 8546.

Oral Worship Service For

Aggressive Man
Velvet tight yielding mouth, strong/throat, loves hard thrusting manhood. Clean, friendly, healthy, safe. Solid WM, 49, 5'8", 170#, musc, ethl, beard, healthy, HIV+. ☎ 8559.

You and I

You: On the smooth end fem side, literally, affectionate, expressive, NS and under 40. Me: articulate, assertive, amorous, hirsute, poetic, lyrical, artistic, amotive and 43. ☎ 8566.

In Search Of A Good Time

GWM, 28, 6'4", slender, seeks GWM 25-40 for friendship or ? Not looking for a lover, just a friend that enjoys the company of a nice guy. Discreet. ☎ 8567.

At Your Service

Sensual butt hole & cock service for well built men. Body worship, licking, rimming, finger fuck or bring your dildo. Oral and JO service, massage. Friendly, cute, chn shaven, GWM guy 30, 5'10", 175, HIV- safe only. Discrete, no recip nec. SF. ☎ 8568.

Hungry Toilet Punk

Sks V/A, humiliation. This groveling, low life, toilet pig wants used by straight bi guys. If your man enough, I'm hungry enough. ☎ 8349.

60 Year Old Cock Sucker

Dedicated phallic worshiper will give you the sensual relief you need. Extra big cocks especially welcomed. ☎ 8350.

Hairy, Bearded,

Raunch Men
Hot, hairy, bearded looking for mutual man smells, piss, sweat, suck, buddies. Beards, cheesy, uncult, over 40 wild mind, sink pits & asses are A+. Blue collar, suits with attitude ok. ☎ 8347.

Ouch

Spank me, tie me up, jack me off slowly while looking into my eyes. Cute boy 29, 5'8", 130#, seeks take charge man. ☎ 8351.

Play Piercing

GWM, 45, 6'1", 225#, tattooed, stache, Italian, HIV-, safe. Safe only. Call. ☎ 8364.

Foot Buddies Wanted

GWM, 40yo, 5'9", masculine looking, 165#, into licking, sucking, mens feet as bottom or reciprocal only. Seeks similar guys, Bi, with size B+ feet, no drugs. ☎ 8366.

Male 65 Up With

Big Load Wanted
By mostly straight, WM, 50's, who wants to lick and suck on your balls while you JO and cum on my face, multi loads welcome, wash it off with CS. The bigger the load the better. ☎ 8425.

Rim Seat?

Face sitting action for hot tongued pigs. Hungry, experienced only. ☎ 8430.

JO W/ Your

Pants Pulled Down
Levis unbuckled? Suit unzipped? Belt unbuckled? Hard on in your shorts (jockeys/boxers)? Attr. GWM, 40's, seeks men 30-40 into JO w/ pants (jaans/slacks/chakis) dropped. White briars etc. Men in suits also at. ☎ 8443.

Piss Soaked T-Shirt

Golden shower buddies, Jan 10. My cherished t-shirt disappeared from its hiding place. I need it back, willing to negotiate. ☎ 8445.

Butts & Boots

Attractive, middle aged guy is turned on by hunk with nice butt & weering boots. Particularly aroused by the seat of 501's & combat fatigues. Will lick, polish boots, kiss ass. ☎ 8547.

Hot Dildo Sex Slave

Handsome, 37yo, bodybld, HIV-, seeks one or more masters for weekend tryouts, service, bondage, fisting, TT, parties. ☎ 8548.

Roped, Spanked & Jacked

Gd/kg, GWM, topman, 35yo, looking for submissive men who liked to be tied up & played with. Photos, Dildos optional. UB between 25-40, in shape. Like curious beginners as well as experienced. ☎ 8549.

Smoker Only

THIS WEEK



Photo: Steve Savage

Wanna Submit?

Send calendar listings to:

This Week
Bay Area Reporter
395 9th Street
San Francisco, CA 94103

Deadline is the Thursday before issue date.

Friday 2

The Bald Soprano

Ionesco's "anti-play" opens EXIT Theatre's Absurdist Series. Fri. & Sat. thru 2/10. \$12. 8pm. 156 Eddy. 673-3847.

Carrie

Tony Vaguelly and Sick and Twisted Players' version of the classic horror film. Thurs.-Sat. thru 2/3. \$12-15. 8pm. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

The Dangerous Border Game

Guillermo Gomez-Peña and Roberto Sifuentes team up with Nao Bustamante, Sara Shelton Mann and others. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/4 at 8pm. \$12.50-18.50. Theater Artaud, 430 Florida. 621-7797.

Four Dogs and a Bone

John Patrick Shanley's four-character comedy: two actresses, a screenwriter and a producer scheme for a movie. Thurs.-Sun. thru 3/2, call for times. \$18. Tonight at 8pm. Actors Theatre, 533 Sutter. 296-9179.

God Said, 'Ha'

New solo performance by Julia Sweeney, ironic examination of family, love and death. Thurs.-Sun. extended thru 2/25, call for times. Tonight at 8:30pm. \$15. Magic Theatre, Bldg. D, Fort Mason. 441-8822.

Indigestible Moons

"And the Final Stretch of Flesh," a collaboration by Gary Brain, Eunice Holland and Johnny Rock, live music by Manticore. \$5. 8pm. ATA,

992 Valencia. 824-3890.

A Language of Their Own

Chay Yew's play about love, loss and language among four young gay men. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/4, tonight at 8pm. \$16-18. Asian American Theater, 403 Arguello. 751-2600.

John LeFlore

Paintings and drawings, reception tonight, 6pm. Thru 2/16. Artwork Gallery, 1837 Divisadero. 673-3080.

A Midsummer Night's Dream

The Royal Shakespeare Company's landmark production of Shakespeare's reverie. Thru 2/3, call for times. \$25-55. Golden Gate Theatre, 1 Taylor at Market. 776-1999.

Mona Rogers in Person

Helen Shumaker's solo performance in Philip Dimitri-Galas' play, extended thru 2/25. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm, Sun. at 7pm. \$16-18. Cable Car Theatre, 430 Mason. 956-8497.

Pete in Paradise

Doug Holsclaw returns as his trashy alter ego Pete Hilton, solo show extended thru 2/4. \$12. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Marilyn Pittman, Gail Hand

Stand-up comedy. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Stomp

Percussive stage sensation from the UK. Thru 2/3, call for times. \$14-26. Tonight at 8pm. Zellerbach Hall, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-9988.

Taking Shape

Showcase of new theatre works by women, thru 2/11. Anita Johnson's *The Passing*, Barbara Tajima's *Boxes*, more, thru 2/4. Tonight at 8pm. \$10. Brava Studio Theatre, 2180 Bryant. 487-5401.

Words 2 Swallow

Daphne Gottlieb, Sarah Gina Jones, others in pungent

▲ Saturday

Edward Graham (left) and Steven Patterson strut their stuff in *Out Calls Only* at Theatre Rhino.

vignettes, wild storytelling, real life drama. Fri. & Sat. \$7-10. 8pm. LunaSea, 2942 16th St., Suite 216C. 863-2989.

Saturday 3

John James Audubon

Exhibit of "The Watercolors for *The Birds of America*"

opens. Thru 4/14. \$6. de Young Mem'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Kim Edward Black

Surreal paintings at gallery dedicated to the human form, reception tonight, 7pm. Thru 3/2. Naked Art Gallery, 355 Bryant, #110. 284-0567.

Bonds Have More Fun

Justin Bond, accompanied by Kenny Melman, \$7 in spy drag, \$11. Doors 9pm, show 11pm. Cocktails, 205 9th St. 781-8224 x176.

Dump Jesse Helms

"Friends of North Carolina," gay/les/bi/trans fundraisers to defeat Helms, meet every Sat., 2pm, Rm 106, MCC, Eureka at 18th. 863-9792.

Effeminophobia

Workshop led by Dr. Jim Bolland, dealing with less-than-the-norm masculinity. \$90. 10am-5pm. Registration required. (510) 524-8540.

Forgiving Waters

Corey Fischer tells story of his mother's death, father's disorientation due to Alzheimer's. Fri.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$15. Tonight at 8pm. A Traveling Jewish Theatre, Project Artaud, 2800 Mariposa. 621-7797.

Gay Comedy Night

Scott Capurro, Danny Williams, Scott Silverman. \$10. 10pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

The Girl Spot

SF's favorite women's dance party. 10pm-4am. V/st. 278 11th St. 621-1530.

The Lady Upstairs

Sara Felder's play, a love story about atomic fission. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/10, call for times. \$12-18. 8pm. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Lesbian and Gay Architects

SF Organization of Lesbian

and Gay Architects and Designers hosts a party. 8-11pm. Photo Metro Gallery, 17 Tehama.

Lesbian and Gay Chorus of Santa Cruz

Concert at the Loudon Nelson Community Center. \$8. 8pm. 301 Center St., Santa Cruz. (408) 662-8790.

Out Calls Only

Erotic comedy based on true stories of SF call boys, directed by Steve Omid. Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/11. \$12-15. Tonight at 8:30pm. Studio at Theatre Rhino, 2926 16th St. 861-5079.

Perverts Put Out

Performance benefit for *Black Sheets* magazine. Carol Queen, Trebor, others. \$8-20. 8pm. 848 Community Space, 848 Divisadero. 431-0171.

Jallen Rix

Pianist plays from his new CD, *The Sacred and the Queer*. \$10. 10pm. Eichelberger's, 2742 17th St. 863-4177.

Two Fools

"A Cross Cultural Romance" by Terry Baum: SF lesbian meets Costa Rican dyke. Opens tonight, runs Thurs.-Sun. at 8pm thru 2/24. \$12. Noh Space, 2840 Mariposa. 621-7978.

Wild Design:

"Designs for the Wild," exhibit of fantastic yet practical designs for outdoor adventure, thru 4/16. SFMOMA, 151 3rd St. 357-4000.

Sunday 4

Amanda!

"Culture is the Seed," tribute to the children of South Africa, contemporary and traditional music, free. 2pm. Center for the Arts Forum, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

DragStrip

Connie Champagne as Judy Garland, Mark Sargeant as Ethel Merman co-host drag queens, kings, strippers, benefits CUAV, Visual Aid. \$7 in drag, \$11. 9pm-2am. DNA Lounge, 375 11th St. 331-9595 x300.

Sequence

Group show curated by Kathryn Lybarger & Connell Ray Little. Fri.-Sun. Push, 532 Natoma. 487-1668.

Surface Tension

Editor Meg Daly and contributors, including Sarah Schulman, read, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

'Til Death Do Us Part

Rev. John Marsh explores issues of fidelity among mature gay men, with G40+ Club. 2pm. First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin. 552-1977.

V Dance

Sister Roma, host, DJs Blackstone and Pete Avila. \$3. 4pm-12am. V/st. 278 11th St. 621-1530.

Monday 5

Lynn Borowitz

Photography exploring the transformation of the human body, reception tonight, 7pm. Thru Feb. Mad Magda's Russian Tea Room, 579 Hayes. 864-7654.

J. B. Higgins

Black & white photographs of the male nude. Thru Feb. SF Eagle, 398 12th St.

Nude Coffee

All-female comedy group performs sketches, songs and parodies. Mondays thru 3/4. \$6. Punchline, 444 Battery. 397-4337.

Tradition

Exhibition of "American Realism: Past and Present." Evening viewings 2/5-7, 6-9pm. Mon.-Sat. thru 3/30. John Pence Gallery, 760 Post. 441-1138.

Tuesday 6

Dark Light

New photographs by Charles Gatewood; also, "Low Tech/High Tech," new sculpture by Marque Comblatt. Thru 2/27. Morphos Gallery, 49 Geary. 399-1439.

Picasso the Sculptor

First exhibition of Picasso's sculptures on the West Coast. Thru 3/10. Palace of the Legion of Honor, 34th Ave. & Clement. 863-3330.

Pictures in 3 Drags

Works by Edward Mordak, thru Feb. Castro Station, 456 Castro.

Variations

"Valentines 1996" exhibition of photographs by Murray Rockowitz. Thru 2/28. Artemis, 2830 Baker. 351-2227.

Women With Balls

Showcase for women stand-up comics, every Tues. \$4. 8pm. Cat's Alley Club, 1190 Folsom. 431-3332.

Wednesday 7

Louise Bourgeois: Drawings

Major retrospective of celebrated octogenarian artist. Wed.-Sun. thru 3/24. \$6. University Art Museum, 2626 Bancroft. (510) 642-0808.

Changes of Heart

West Coast premiere of Mari-



▲ Monday

Randall Lake's *The Artist and His Model* is on exhibit in *Tradition, American Realism: Past and Present* at the John Pence Gallery.

vaux's 18th comedy, ad ed by Step Tues.-Sun. times. \$28. Repertory Addison, B (510) 845-

A Chorus

"Chinese G American works of g thru 2/25. Museum, 6 668-7855.

Lipsink Be Des

"The First glamorous rises from Minnellian views thru Sat., thru Josie's Cal St. 861-79-

Leslea

Reading fr Woman, fr ferent Light 431-0891.

Nothing from th

"William W History," th chooses w manent co thru 3/7. 3 Mem'l Mus Park. 863-

Remem the Way

"Art of the invitational 3/30. Am temporary Suite 250.

Suenos

"Promised Year of the lective pro phers Virg Ruben Gus Govea, An 3/2. Galer dio 24, 28 826-8009.

The Ter

A.C.T.'s ppreare's p power of r redemption 2/18, call 8pm. Geat Geary. 745-

Twilight Los An

Anna Dea nearly 40

▲ Sa

This love of John of Amer

Vaux's 18th-century romantic comedy, adapted and directed by Stephen Wadsworth. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/23, call for times. \$28-32.50. Berkeley Repertory Theatre, 2025 Addison, Berkeley. (510) 845-4700.

A Chorus of Colors

"Chinese Glass from Three American Collections," rare works of glass. Wed.-Sun. thru 2/25. \$6. Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park. 668-7855.

Lypsinka Must Be Destroyed!

"The First Farewell" Like a glamorous phoenix, Lypsinka rises from the ashes of her Minnellian nightmare. Previews thru Fri. \$15. Opens Sat., thru 3/31, \$18-20. 8pm. Josie's Cabaret, 3583 16th St. 861-7933.

Leslea Newman

Reading from *My Lover is a Woman*, free. 7:30pm. A Different Light, 489 Castro. 431-0891.

Nothing Lost from the Original:

"William Wiley Looks at Art History," the California artist chooses works from the permanent collection. Wed.-Sun. thru 3/7. \$6. de Young Men'l Museum, Golden Gate Park. 863-3330.

Remembering the Way:

"Art of the Native Northwest" invitational group show, thru 3/30. American Indian Contemporary Arts, 685 Market, Suite 250. 495-7600.

Sueños Prometidos

"Promised Dreams," opens "Year of the Immigrant." Collective project by photographers Virginia Benavidez, Ruben Guzman, Catalina Govea, Antonio Tovar. Thru 3/2. Galeria de la Raza/Studio 24, 2857 24th St. 826-8009.

The Tempest

A.C.T.'s production of Shakespeare's play about the power of magic, dreams, and redemption. Tues.-Sun. thru 2/18, call for times. \$13-45. 8pm. Geary Theater. 405 Geary. 749-2228.

Twilight, 1992

Los Angeles, 1992. Anna Deavere Smith portrays nearly 40 real-life individuals



▲ Saturday

This lovely California Condor (*Gymnogyps californianus*) is part of John James Audubon's *The Watercolors for The Birds of America* at the de Young Memorial Museum.



▲ Thursday

Liz Taylor plays a New York "model" looking for love in *Butterfield 8* at the Castro Theatre.

with perspectives on the '92 uprising. Thru 3/17, call for times. \$21.50-34. Tonight at 8pm. Marines Mem'l Theatre, 609 Sutter. (510) 845-4700.

Vindictive Queens

Orchestral noise and avant garde performance, incl. Big City Orchestra, The Haters and Better Hosi & Garters. \$3. 9pm-2am. Cafe du Nord, 2170 Market. 979-6545.

Word of Mouth

James Lecesne's solo performance: Frankie Salzano lives in the Brooklyn house where his mother, Josie, runs a beauty parlor. Thru 2/18, \$14-16. 8pm. Bayfront Theatre, Bldg B, Fort Mason. 392-4400.

Thursday 8

Allan Berube Slide Show

Author of *Coming Out Under Fire* presents "No Race-Baiting, No Red-Baiting or Queer-Baiting! The Marine Cooks & Stewards Union from the Depression to the Cold War," free, 7:30pm. Sibley Auditorium, UC Berkeley. (510) 642-7264.

Bingo

Gay bingo benefits Coming Home Hospice, every Thurs. \$12. Doors 6pm. Most Holy Redeemer Church, 100 Diamond St. 241-0425.

Butterfield 8

Elizabeth Taylor won an Oscar for her portrayal of the whore Gloria Wanton. Double-billed with *Valley of the Dolls*. 7pm. Castro Theater, Castro at Market. 621-6120.

Cafe Milk

"A Salon of Harvey Milk Institute Artists," short stories, poetry from Queer Peer Writing Group, art from Alive Drawing, free. 7pm. Build, 483 Guerrero. 552-7200.

Conspiracy of the Moment

"21 Documentary Photographers" exhibit curated by Rupert Jenkins, thru 2/29. Photo Metro Gallery, 17 Tehama.

Eight from South Africa

Sculpture and painting by

eight contemporary South African artists. Tues.-Sun. thru 3/3. \$4. Center for the Arts, 701 Mission. 978-ARTS.

Jamaica Kincaid

Novelist and essayist reads, benefit for The Women's Foundation. \$18. 8pm. Herbst Theatre, McAllister & Van Ness. 392-4400.

Maestro!

Exhibition of thirty prints of internationally famous conductors by SF photographer Tom Zimmerman. Tues.-Sat. thru 3/23. Free. San Francisco Performing Arts Library & Museum, 399 Grove. 255-4800.

Wilfred Spoon

Still lifes, landscapes and interiors, reception tonight, 6pm. Tues.-Sat. thru Feb. Mulligan-Shanoski, 747 Post. 771-0663.

Still Headin' Fo' Da' Promise Land

Afro Solo presents Thomas R. Simpson exploring the joy and pain of being a black man in the U.S. Thurs.-Sat. at 8pm thru 2/17. \$10. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Tibetan Art

Exhibition of prints of thanks paintings, collection of sacred Buddhist texts, Thurs.-Sun. thru 2/25. \$5. Dharma House, 2910 San Pablo, Berkeley. (510) 548-5407.

2 Boys in a Bed on a Cold Winter's Night

James Edwin Parker's comic tale, how not to behave during a one-night stand, directed by Ed Decker. Wed.-Sat. at 8pm thru 2/17. \$12-16. New Conservatory Theatre, 25 Van Ness. 861-8972.

Extra Value Dinner Specials



Char-grilled 12-oz N.Y. Steak or N.Y. Pepper Steak with french fries, onion rings, vegetable and soup or salad.....10.95

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Grilled Pork Chops with apple-raisin dressing, Thai-spice peanut sauce, with soup or salad.....9.50

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Sara Felder

*

Directed by...

Mary Coleman

*

Wed - Sun

Jan 11
thru
Feb 10

OUT CALLS ONLY

By...

JoJo LeFft

Directed by...
Steve Omlid

Thu - Sun

Jan 25
thru
Feb 18

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Image from "SHOPSEX", Brian Videos' exciting new production

BAY AREA REPORTER BAZAAR

MR. MARCUS

Life Can Be a Drag

So what's a guy to do when there's not one single leather event going on around ye olde campus — like this past weekend? I've been known to explore the Tenderloin, hike on Polk, breeze through the Haight or occasionally make a foray into the Disastro. Besides visiting jazz venues, I've often hit the zoo, the Steinhart Aquarium, the de Young Museum — and the new Yerba Buena Center is very nice.

But last Saturday night, Jan. 27; I liked the nostalgic theme, "The Summer of Love," of the 12th annual ETVC Cotillion being held at the Russian Center. The scenery and the theme music throughout was vintage late '60s — the years when Haight Street was in its glory and I myself had just come out.

Tommi Rose, a favorite in these parts and now the reigning empress de Los Angeles, teamed up with the dowager empress of Alameda County, Timmi Ryan, to emcee the event that had eight contestants vying for the titles: seven for Ms. ETVC (Marilyn Mansfield, Kindra Van Spyk, Valerie Genalo, Christine Salvetti, Darcy Leopard, Sandra Brewer and Dawn Wilson) and one (Bobby Bentley) for Mr. ETVC. This was a transgender affair, mind you, so that translates to seven men and one woman.

There was lots of great entertainment (Cockatelia, Julie Rose, Vina Las Vegas and Tommi Rose) along with the intro of dignitaries, the 1996 emperor and empress candidates, and awards to Sen. and Mrs. Milton Marks and James Green, the director of FTM Intl., which was accepted by Mr. Shadow Morton. The Joanna Caron award went to Tomasina Ann Troutwine, a move that was well-received by the entire audience.

They all competed in talent, active wear and formal wear categories, and the judges then selected the five semifinalists (Dawn Wilson, Darcy Leopard, Marilyn Mansfield, Bobby Bentley and Valerie Genalo).

The judges based their final scores on responses to a posed question, and when it was over, the second runner-up was Darcy Leopard; first runner-up, Dawn Wilson; and Ms. ETVC Cotillion 1996... Valerie Genalo. Mr. ETVC Cotillion '96 is Bobby Bentley. It was a packed house, a fun night



Photo: Mr. Marcus

"Boy" Joey Faria is Mr. February 1997 on the SoMa Bare Chest Calendar, chosen by judges over four other contestants at the Eagle last Thursday, Jan. 25.

and another feather in the fabulous headdress of ETVC/San Francisco. This one is getting bigger every year. Maybe you should check it out in 1997. Thanks again, Ginny Knuth, for inviting me.

Fresh litter

On Friday night, Jan. 26, a new weekly dance club premiered on Clementina St. No one is sure who the entrepreneurial force is behind this one, but it's called "Litter Box." Regardless of your interpretation of the name, the crowd certainly did run the gamut from lipstick dykes, young marrieds, leather men and women, punk and grunge types, and everything in between.

In San Francisco, it's a given that everyone is always looking for something new, and Litter Box seems to be the new rage. Disco mavens and a lot of new faces made for a sparkling pastiche of first nighters; the energy was as high as the decibel level, I tell you.

"Javier" was the deejay, and everyone was gyrating with verve — and get this — they even have a masseur on hand to soothe sweaty bodies as the night progresses to a crescendo of hedonism until early morning. If that's your bag, check out their next gathering.

The shirts off their backs

The search for 12 men to grace the 1997 SoMa Bare Chest calendar at the Eagle is under way, and there seems to be a lot of enthusiasm in the community over it. In the rollicking contest to name Mr. January on Thursday, Jan. 11, Andy Anderson certainly set the tone for a fun, fun evening with a whopping eight contestants.

Last Thursday, Jan. 25, five more brave men endured the questioning by the emcee and judges Mikey Greenberg (Mr. Nov. '96), Ron Telles (Mr. May '96) and a visitor from Baltimore, Craig Denby, who also happens to be a member of the Tarheels MC.

After the outrageous questions and answers (even more outrageous!) and the baring of the chests, the judges convened and in the end picked Joey Faria as Mr. February 1997. The runner-up was Alex, and Joey's two daddies (he admits he's a pig) were very proud. Joey's other daddy was quietly observing in another room of the Eagle, but he was also



Photo: Mr. Marcus

1996 ETVC Cotillion winners chosen last Saturday night, Jan. 27, at the Russian Center (l to r): Mr. ETVC Bobby Bentley and Ms. ETVC Valerie Genalo.

Eventures in Leather

All phone numbers are in the 415 area code unless otherwise indicated.

Thursday, Feb. 1

Mr. March 1997 chosen tonight at the Eagle Bare Chest Calendar contest beginning at 2200. Win \$100. Fame. Fortune. And do your bit for the AIDS Emergency Fund. Bare Chest Chorus will be there!

"Together Miracles Will Happen" clothing drive instituted by Mr. Alameda Co. Leather Lance Britain begins all over the Bay Area. Clean out your closets and bring serviceable clothes to special drop-offs.

Dadé Ursus art show opens at the Lone Star Saloon this evening with a reception for the artist from 1900 to 2100. Hanging until Feb. 21.

Friday, Feb. 2

Groundhog Day. "If February gives much snow, a fine summer it doth foreshow."

Mardi Gras opens today in Sydney with a month-long agenda of parties and cultural events, culminating in the big bash on March 2.

Saturday, Feb. 3

Cal Eagles MC celebrates its 12th anniversary with a shindig at the Eagle tonight from 1900 to 2100. Come and meet the members and new officers of this popular club. Entry by invitation in hand or wear your club overlay.

Defenders MC hosts a \$6 beer bust at the Lone Star from 1500 to 1900, with \$1 hot dogs benefiting Holy Redeemer AIDS Support Services.

Men in Boots \$5 beer bust at the Jackhammer from 1600 to 1900. Remember, wear your boots! Preferably not of the go-go variety. Free bootblack on hand, too.

Mr. Seattle Leather '96 gets chosen tonight at Neighbors at 2000 with \$8 tix available at the door. By Generic Leather Productions, the event's theme is: "Retro Leathermen: Where Were You in the '70s?" If you need more info, call (206) 233-8527.

Sunday, Feb. 4

Full Moon party at The Edge from 2000 until closing;

the contest is at 2200. Drop your drawers and bare your butt. Danny Williams will emcee, and you can win certificates toward purchases at Lupann's, the Cove and Village Grill. Oh Eric, how generous you are!

Thursday, Feb. 8

Big Basket Contest and beer bust at The Edge from 2000 to midnight for \$6. One-dollar raffle tickets - all for the A.E.F.

Friday, Feb. 9

Mardi Gras party at Buck's Saloon in San Jose begins at 2000, with a myriad of games, a king and queen crowned, and lots of prizes, beads, jail & bail, cocking toss, etc., etc.

Weekend, Feb. 9-11

Pantheon of Leather awards ceremony and show in New Orleans. Lots of SF nominees and leather people from all over the country will be in the Crescent City. More on this one next week. ▼

proud of "Boy" Joey.

Two weeks ago (Jan. 12-14), seven of the 1996 calendar men made the trek to Palm Springs to cavort among desert men and sell and autograph the calendar. Reportedly, they all had a great time (i.e., they all got laid!). Jerry Roberts and Lee Tucker, the spearheads of the post-contest events, really outdo themselves with staging these sale extravaganzas! Have you got yours yet?

In February, there will be three chances to get on the calendar: Mr. March '97 will be chosen next Thursday, Feb. 1; Mr. April '97 is up for grabs on Thursday, Feb. 15; and the Mr. May '97 spot will be filled on Thursday, Feb. 29. Hope to see you there!

The 1996 Mr. San Francisco Leather contest plans are under way, with emcees, entertainers and judges already invited for the mid-April soiree (either Saturday April 13 or 20 at a venue TBA). Stay tuned. You'll be the first to know the details right here.

As for the Ms. San Francisco Leather title, it's still up in the air whether there will be a competition this year.

Super Bowl XXX is history. Private and public parties all over the campus were in progress last Sunday, the majority of diehard



Awwww! Are we proud of our boy? From left to right, Daddy Richard Bollingbrook, Mr. Feb. '97 Joey Faria and Leather Daddy '95 Steve Gaines pose last Thursday after the Bare Chest contest.

49er fans betting on Pittsburgh. At one such gathering, Queen of the 38 Geary Don "Ho" Tse and Ms. Firefighter Lee had the audacity to agitate everyone with their prolonged and misguided Dallas Cowgirl fervor.

Did you see the lousy makeup job on Troy-etta's face? You'd think Ms. Troy could get a decent

makeup artist what with all those drag queens in Dallas! Harrumph!

Well, at least Barry Switzer's job is secure for another year, but the feud between him and Troy-etta could lead to complications. And you know those sports writers (I swear they're all bitchy queens) will jump on it! Go Steelers! A real man's team. ▼



Men of the 1996 Bare Chest Calendar (l to r): Ron Telles, Gary Lindstrum, Mikey Greenberg and Martyn Jones went to Palm Springs in January to autograph and sell the calendar to desert men.

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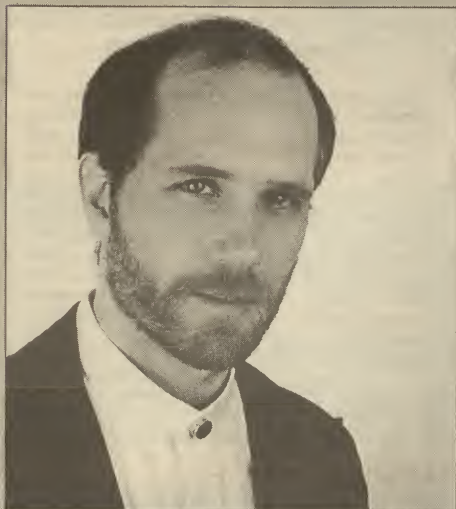
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Sundays with Seth



Local pianist and conductor Seth Montfort begins a series of concerts, "Sundays With Seth," that runs throughout February at the MCC Church (150 Eureka St.). The first program will feature three works by Mozart: the Oboe Concerto in C (Margot Golding, oboe); the Piano Concerto No. 12, K. 414 (Seth Montfort, piano); and *Exsultate Jubilate*, (Karen Sprung, soprano; David Sprung, conductor). Cramer's Violin Concerto No. 6 (Joseph Gold, violin) rounds out the program. The concert is at 3 p.m. Tickets are \$10.

The series continues on Sunday, February 11, with a recital by Montfort that includes Gershwin's *Songbook* and *Rhapsody in Blue*. 3 p.m. Tickets are \$5. On February 18, in honor of President's Day, Montfort will perform a recital of American and European works from the periods of Washington and Lincoln. \$10. On February 25, Montfort will perform an all-Chopin recital (3 p.m., \$5). For information about this series, call 731-3355. These concerts are also performed on Sundays in Berkeley at 1 p.m. at the Giorgi Gallery, 2911 Claremont Avenue in Berkeley. For information, call 1-510-849-4967. ▼

They're Baaaaaaack!

Bar Girls by Lauran Hoffman; Naiad, \$10.95

by Deborah Peifer

Of all the horrors visited on the hapless reading public, there is no worse horror than novelization, the process of turning a movie into something that vaguely resembles a novel. I thought that *Claire of the Moon* would retire the prize for worst novelization of the decade, but that was before *Bar Girls*.

There is a moment in any wretched novel when the transcendent awfulness is made manifest. In *Bar Girls* that moment occurred for me on page 71, when Rachel "launched into a German accent as she began imitating Garbo." Here's news. Greta Garbo spoke English with a Swedish accent because she was born in Stockholm, Sweden!

But there is so much more that is dreadful about *Bar Girls*, the novel, namely a dialogue style that reads like lame stand-up, and the most purple prose since *Valley of the Dolls*, as in this typical passage: "We traveled through the rough white waters of intimacy, tumbling breathlessly, and finally emerging to the blue water waves of

ecstasy." Ugh. Then, on top of flat characters in unbelievable situations, there are trite truisms, delivered in such a style as to suggest they are miraculous and wise: "I had to love myself. Before I could love anyone else, I had to love myself." I suppose if you loved *Bar Girls*, the movie, you might enjoy having *Bar Girls*, the novel to remember it by. I can think of no other reason for reading this insufferable novel. ▼



MUSIC



Safe Sax

The acclaimed Adolphe Sax Ensemble comes to Old First Church on Sunday, February 4. The South Bay-based quartet will perform a program of music for six saxes that combines classical, world and theater music with jazz. The music is composed and arranged by members of the Society of Gay and Lesbian Composers. Sunday's program includes: Dennis Lindholm's *Notes from Prague*, Peter Bellinger's *Saxophone Quintet*, Alan Stringer's *Symphony for Saxo-*

phones, and Charles Buel's *Reflections on Raga Todi*, a solo for alto sax (performed by sax virtuoso Dale Wolford) that combines musical ideas from Indian, Balinese, Chinese and Western music.

The performance is at 4 p.m. February 4 at Old First Church, 1751 Sacramento St. Tickets are available in advance, or at the door, \$9 general, \$7 for students and seniors. Free tickets for PWAs are available through the Shanti Project. For more info., call 474-1608. ▼

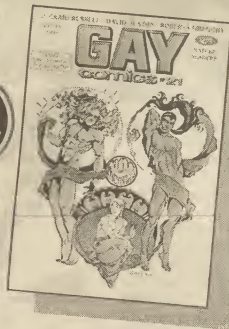
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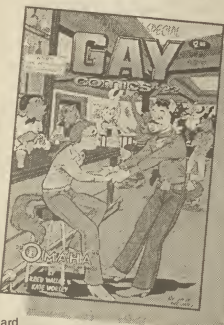
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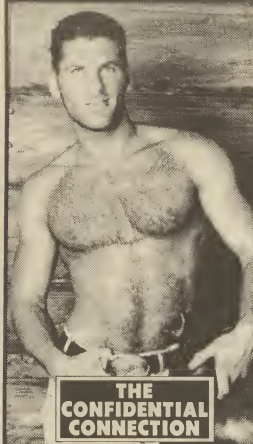
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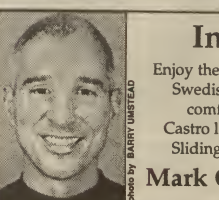
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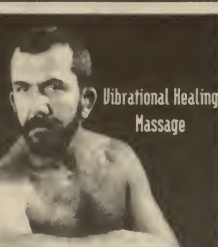
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Built (5'10", 170#), Great Hands
Gives Full-Body, Swedish
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Available on short notice
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Member — AMTA
Soothe away stress and tension
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Gift Certificates Available
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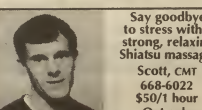
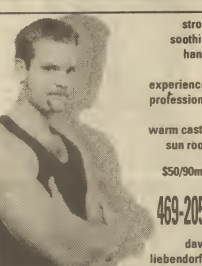


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Matt Flynn
CMT
415.252.9661



Older & Large Men Welcome
Any Race * 773-9130 * Kory

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Sensual-Sacred-
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ENTER THE GAY GALAXY!

Call Me For A
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Out of This
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Experience!

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NO CREDIT CARD NEEDED! NO CALLER PAYMENTS! NO T

**Soothing, Sensual, Soulful
BODYWORK**
in Noe Valley
\$40/Hr. \$50/1 1/2 Hrs
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ADVENTURESOME**

Built tight, muscular and hung
Blond man, 34, 6', 210 lbs.
Very friendly guys
over 30 preferred
Sensual massage in the buff
\$45 in/\$60 out 24 hrs.

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2 Man Massage

A Warm Table, Two Great
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A Two-Man Massage Team
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**SF's Most Creative Duo
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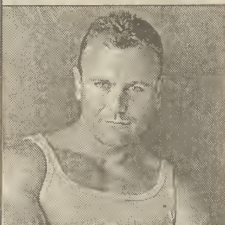
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Canadian**



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Cathedral Hill Area \$45 in - \$80 out
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Total relaxation. \$45/in.
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Very Cute, Young, & Boyish
Blond/Blue/Tan/Smooth
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of your body to a realm beyond
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Sexy/Young/Tan/Very Cute

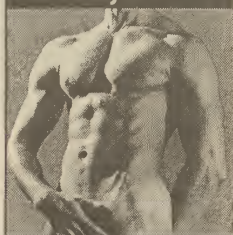
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away! 22 yo, affectionate lover
massages & satisfies fetishes &
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for men
certified **481-1980**

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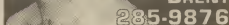
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"Come Cuddle
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\$50 90min
Gift Certificates

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**Swedish/Deep
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Clean, Warm, Private,
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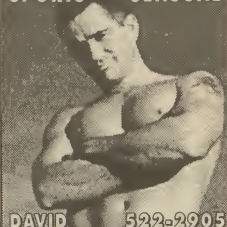
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& Relax in Bliss!
22, Athletic & Mysterious!
Swedish, Shiatsu,
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No Nonsense Affair

A Professional Man

For Your Body and Head

By A Handsome Man

6'1", 210 lbs., Blond/Blu

Sam 885-6379

24 HRS.

1st Timers Welcome



**Firm and
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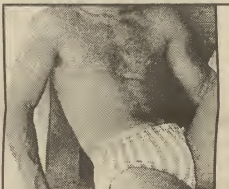
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Full Body

Table

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before 10 pm



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V-handsome Scandinavian Man,

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Especially like small

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Offers nurturing full-body

Massage. Sensuos

Swedish/Esalen Style.

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Sensual Msg, Escort

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25 yo blond, handsome German

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Prostate Massage, Enemas, Etc.

\$60 Housecalls, SF & Marin

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by T.K. (29 years old). Out

Full Body Pg 373-8570 * \$45

Erotic Massage - 24 Hours, by

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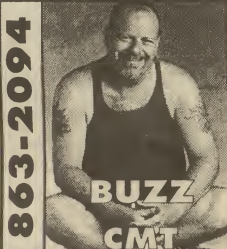
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Smooth 22 Euro-Polynesian

NEW IN TOWN!

Australian Model

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Great MASSAGE

by Pleasant **LATINO**

out/in Bi **CARLOS**

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Eyes of Blue Six Foot Two

GREAT FULL BODY

Experienced, Friendly 31 y/o

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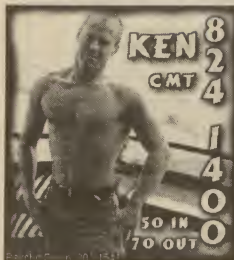
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22 yo, fresh from London. Student w/
muscular bod, offering the ultimate in
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\$50 - out. Matthew **781-8224 ext.158**

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SO IN 70 OUT

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RELAXING • SENSUAL • HEALING
A Superb Massage by a
Strong, Sensitive, Nurturing,
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RELAX
BUT GET AROUSED
Sensual, Erotic
Nude Massage
by 27 y/o Handsome
Muscular Caring Guy
TOMAS: 661-4053

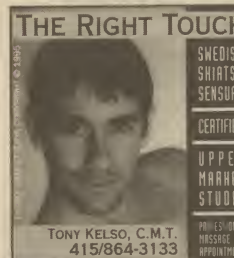


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Lean, Defined, Nude & 24
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Outcall Masseur \$50
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Indulge in Your Well-Being
Professional, Exceptional
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Hot, Nude Mass by 6' 190 Lbs
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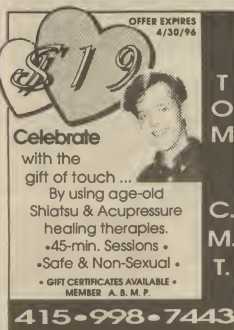
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Chris*522-1116*Will Barter



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SWEDISH
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Skilled, Sensitive, Strong
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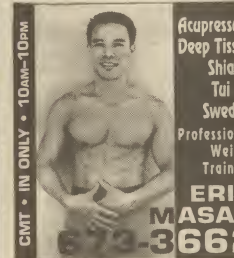


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ULTIMATE SENSUAL MASSAGE
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HOT OIL
Erotic Full-Body
STRONG HANDS
HOT SKIN
\$40/IN
Noe Valley
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MARIN/SF



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Acupressure
Deep Tissue
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CONCORD-WALNUT CREEK
FULL BODY-FULL PLEASURE
BY FRED OR BUTCHY
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FRAT MAN
Masculine, Horse-Hung Jack
Athletic Build • Friendly
Dominant • Verbal • Long Lasting
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HOT LATINO
Exceptional Good Looks
Black Dreadlocks, Smooth
25 yo, 6' 175 In/Out, SF Only
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Perfect Legs and Ass
6'2", 8"
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For Mature, Older Men
FRIENDLY
Cute, Bright, Sincere
26 yo, Providing Intimacy
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IN/OUT CALLS ASK 4 MIKEY
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PLAY WITH ME
Sweet & Sexy 25 yo 5'9" 140 lbs
Trim, clean athletic body
Safe & Fun * Lee * 313-2109

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Hairy Italian Bi-Dude gives best
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Safe manly escort to your
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Massage by Very Handsome
Man. Page 560-0564 * Ron

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Muscular, Handsome
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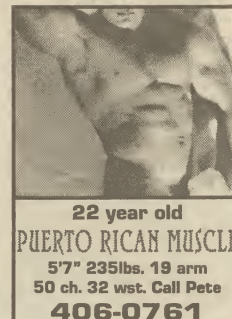


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Nurturing & Relaxation
Comfortable Table
Attractive 28 yr old
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90 min. ~ \$50 in
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Very friendly Very Masculine
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50 ch. 32 wst. Call Pete
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Tender 38 y/o Mature Swim.
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THE POWERFUL MASTER in Town
HOT, HAIRY, DOMINANT
Experienced, Most Scenes
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Hot Mouth, Deep Throat
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Nice Smooth Boyish Build
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6'3", 200, 30 y/o, goatee, Br/Bl
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Potent, Virile Athlete
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B/BI 5'11" 165# Very Masculine
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Cum 2 Papa
Sexy Tattooed
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Surf with this!
boy: beach
attitude: fresh
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6'2", 185, strong, gymtoned
master into all aspects &
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9" THICK
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GAY/BI/STRAIGHT
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Big hangers, Great Butt
6'2" Masculine Hairy Blond
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Rates adjust to time.

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6'4" 195# Blond/Blu Hairy
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Tight built, laid-back, lean
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Distinguished Age 40
Handsome Hung 8" & Thick
\$60 * DAVE * 922-3924

Goodlooking, 6'1", 165 Lbs
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\$80/\$100 * JIM 267-1817

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22 Yr Old Energetic Blk Man
Easy to Talk to.
Handsome, slim-built and Hung
Extremely Top. Out Only.
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Imaginative, Basic.
Romance, Date? Jock,
Much Better Looking in
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Blond
In/Out
\$100
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BEAUTIFULLY BUFFED
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Lean Hot Sensual Smooth
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Steve * 975-1072 * East Bay

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20 Years * 10"
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Attr. Young Southeast Asian
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MAN WITH A FIST

TOYS - SLING
Give it up to Nick * Nob Hill
I'm great w/beginners*Advanced
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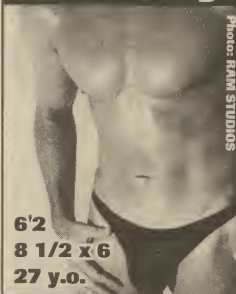
Beautiful
BLACK, BALD
6'3" 185# Size 13 Shoes
11 UNCUT INCHES
Tony * (415) 313-3867 Pager

EASTBAY STUD

25, Tan, Smooth, Discreet
Bld, Brn, Toned, Top, Hung
(510) 218-9012 * \$75 Firm

Sadistic Tickle Top * 928-3199

Anthony



6'2"
8 1/2 x 6
27 y.o.

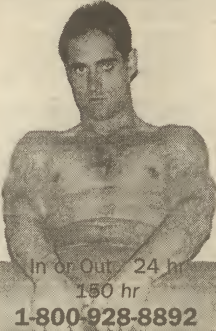
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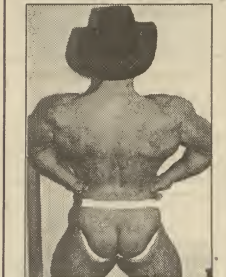
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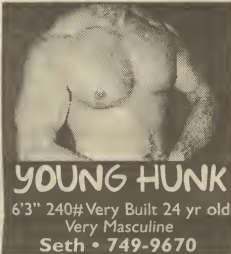
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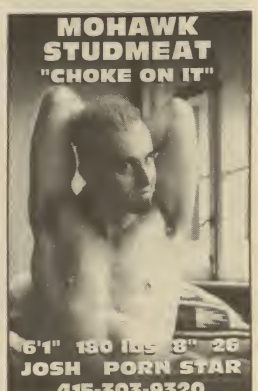
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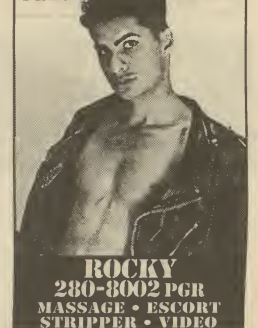
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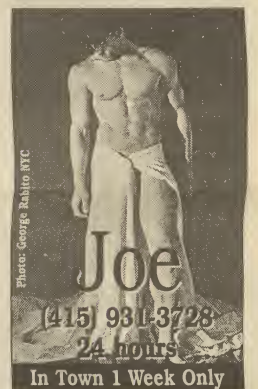


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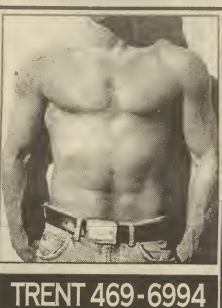
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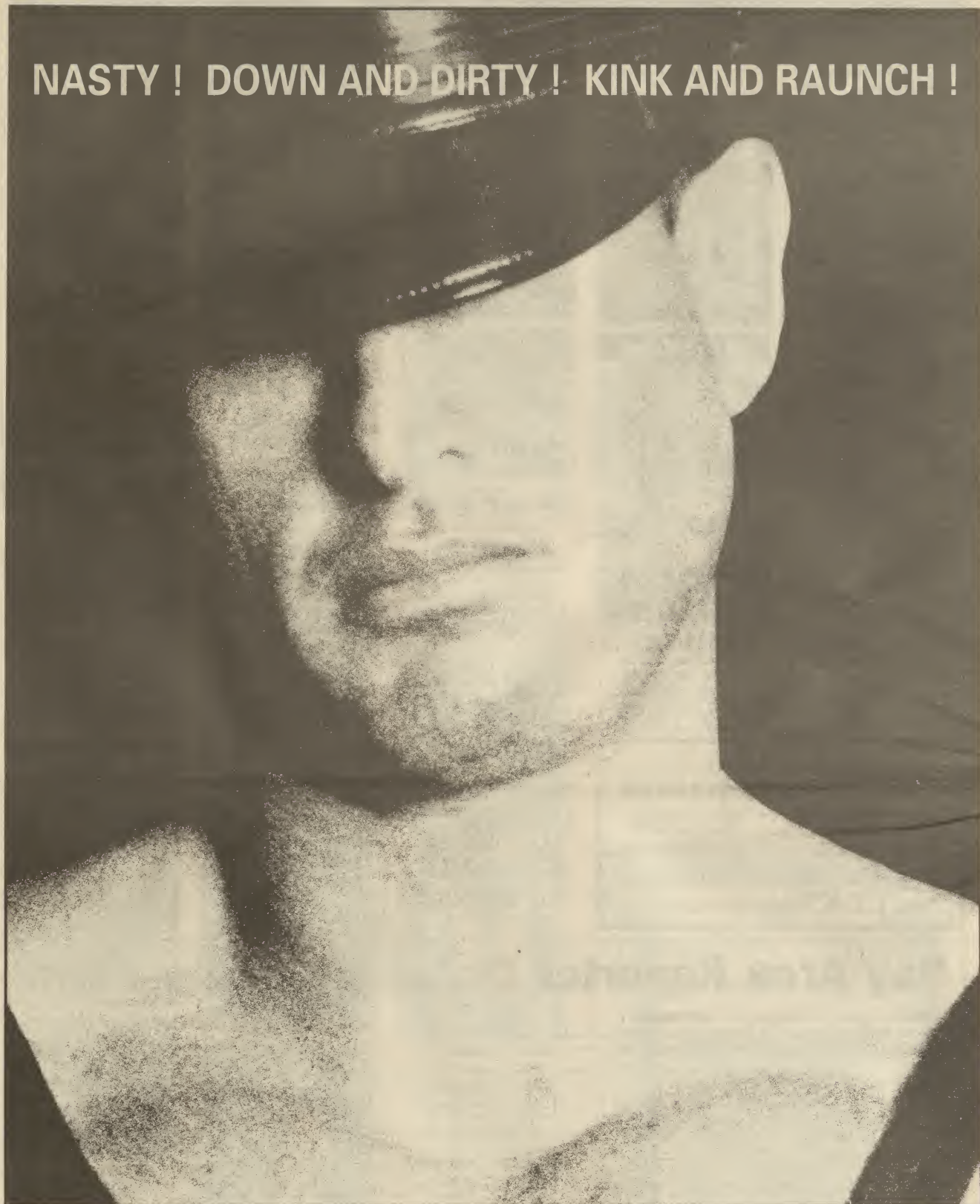
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